JAN 29 2001

A Student Publication
of Hamilton College
Clinton, New York

The Spectator

January 19, 2001
Volume XXXXI
Number 13

Pendergast leaving Hamilton

by Peter Ringel '01
SENIOR EDITOR

It was an offer he just couldn't refuse.

Head Football Coach Tim Pendergast will leave Hamilton College immediately to accept the head coaching position at Cornell University.

Pendergast's departure means that for the third time in three years, Hamilton will have a new football coach patrolling the sidelines.

Pendergast scheduled a Friday morning meeting with his players to inform them of his decision, while a formal announcement was scheduled for Friday afternoon.

"Hamilton is a great place and this was a very hard decision for me," said Pendergast, who leaves Hamilton after just one season as the school's head coach. "I had no intention or pre-conceived notions that I would stay for twelve months and then leave. It's all about timing and this opportunity was too good to pass up."

The Cornell head coaching position became vacant a few weeks ago when their coach resigned. Cornell immediately contacted Pendergast who had worked at the Ivy-League school from 1981-1989 as the defensive backs coach and recruiting coordinator.

"I've got a program at Cornell that I have to organize and get going" added Pendergast. As a result, Pendergast was leaving for Ithaca, New York on Friday.

"I'm extremely happy for Tim and believe this is an opportunity of a lifetime," said Athletic Director Tom Murphy. "We will really miss him and all the effort he put into building our football program this year. He is one of the hardest working coaches I have ever seen."

Pendergast replaced Steve Frank last season as Head Coach. Frank coached Hamilton from 1985-1999 and despite nine winning seasons "resigned" after the 1999 season.

"Tim's departure is a tremendous loss for Hamilton," admitted President Eugene Tobin. "I think this is a wonderful opportunity for Cornell and I am delighted for Tim, but losing him after one year is disappointing. He pulled the football team together through ups and downs this past season and showed he was a great manager of young people. He was persuasive, enthusiastic, and compassionate."

Although Pendergast's team finished the 2000 season with a 2-6 record, the team was clearly moving in the right direction. Pendergast coached the Continentals defense which proved to be one of the best defensive units in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) last season.

"I feel badly for the players because the new coach will be their third coach in three seasons and that's not easy," said Pendergast. "However, these players are strong, courageous, and willing. I will never forget this group of players and all their hard work and dedication. I know that this program will right itself very soon."

PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION
Head Football Coach Tim Pendergast (pictured with family) is leaving Hamilton to become head coach at Cornell University.

It was unclear whether any of Pendergast's assistant coaches would remain next season, but that decision is expected to be announced soon.

As for Pendergast's successor, candidates are already in the process of applying for the head coaching position, but it was too early to tell whether there were any front runners.

"We will begin a search for Tim's replacement immediately and hope to name the next coach as quickly as possible," said Murphy.

Tobin also stressed that it was very important to hire a new coach quickly because of admissions decisions for next year. "We need to identify the top people in the field in a short amount of time," Tobin admitted. "We need to build on the energy and success that Tim left."

ACCESS program underway

by Rebecca Fabricant '03
NEWS WRITER

Hamilton College welcomed 17 new students to the community on January 15th through the ACCESS Project. These students are low-income women from the Mohawk Valley who are taking the first step toward a college education. Many have small children at home or other significant family responsibilities.

The ACCESS Project, co-directed by Professors Vivyan Adair and Erol Balkan and coordinated by Sharon Gormley, is "a holistic, educational/social service program." The program aims to help low-income parents improve their lives and the lives of their children and families through higher education. SUNY Empire State and Utica College are also participating in the program.

The students, who live off-campus, receive one year of free tuition at Hamilton, in addition to the use of campus facilities and take-home computers, admission to on-cam-

see Access, page 2

Griffin road electrical fire displaces seven, $13,000 in damage

by Chris LaRosa '03
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

An electrical fire on Monday left a college-owned home at one Griffin Road with fire, smoke, and water damage. Five foreign language teaching fellows and two of their family members lived in the building.

At around 7:40 p.m. Carlos Solano, son of Spanish Teaching Fellow Maria-Gabriela Solano, noticed the lights went out in his room. Upon leaving his room to investigate, Carlos saw smoke drifting out from beneath the door of an adjacent room. Carlos and his grandmother, Olga Solano immediately left the residence, Carlos wearing only socks on his feet.

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER LAROSA '03
Carlos Solano, son of Spanish teaching fellow Maria-Gabriela Solano, relaxes in his new residence on College Hill Road. Carlos' quick response to an electrical fire at One Griffin led to an early containment of the blaze.

After evacuating the building, the Solanos flagged down a nearby campus safety officer who in turn contacted the Clinton Fire Department. Volunteers responded to the call at 7:50 p.m. While the fire was contained to a single room on the second floor, smoke and slight water damage to the first floor left the building uninhabitable.

Approximately 22 volunteers from the Clinton Fire Department responded to the call. No one was injured in the initial evacuation or treatment of the fire.

All seven residents of the house were temporarily housed at the hotel in the Bristol Campus Center. The displaced residents are now all living in other campus-owned buildings.

Clinton Fire Department Chief John Nester reported that a pinched electrical cord ignited the fire. Nester said the call was routine. A truck, a pump, a tanker,

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College rallies around Carly Mallman's return

by Jenny Russell '02
NEWS WRITER

PHOTO BY SARAH KARALUNAS '04
Carly Mallman '04 in her dorm room.

Carly Mallman '04 returned this week to campus for her first full semester at Hamilton. At the beginning of the fall semester, Mallman had an unfortunate accident, forcing her to leave campus. She suffered from a broken collar bone as well as head injuries.

Upon hearing of Mallman's accident, her parents immediately flew from Chicago. While in the hospital, Carly received support and visits from Hamilton administrators. "Hamilton has been extremely supportive throughout the entire ordeal," she says.

Mallman says she is returning to a place she belongs. "I do not feel as if I am starting over. Rather, that I am returning," she says.

Mallman had to plan her academic schedule with regard for the limitations her accident imposed by taking writing intensive courses as well as classes that are discussion-oriented: "My professors have been very cooperative with me and have enabled me to stay away from classes which would require memorization."

Mallman also looks forward to

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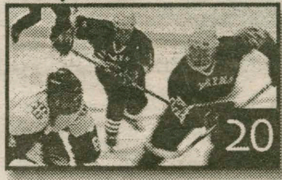
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New students adjust to first week on campus

by Allison Scott '02
NEWS WRITER

While the rest of us were spending our last few days of Winter Break stocking up on homecooking, six orientation leaders and Bev Low, director of student activities, were back on campus introducing over 20 new students to life on the hill.

This year 26 new students enrolled at Hamilton. Among these 26 were four transfer students and 22 "first semester" students. Many of these new students had applied to Hamilton for fall enrollment but were either deferred until the spring or took a semester off before starting college.

The new students, coming from all over the country as well as one student from Spain, had a lot of free time during their January Orientation to get to know each other and become familiar with the campus.

Orientation started with what Orientation Coordinator Krysten Schmerbeck '02 referred to as "an expanded but more relaxed first night" opposed to the traditional first night which has tended to be more of a serious experience for incoming students.

Students also went on tours of the campus, met leaders from on-campus organizations and activates as well as members of the Dean of Students Office, Campus Safety and Student Assembly, and were welcomed with a "meet the faculty" dinner.

But Orientation wasn't all about business. Activities such as watching a hockey game, snowtubing, dinner in the Little Pub and a day trip to Sangertown Mall gave the new students a chance to make friends and become comfortable with the Hamilton life-style.

Maura Boyle, a new student, felt that the orientation was "very well structured and organized. It was loose enough for us to give our two cents about activates and to change the things we wanted."

This year's January Admission was unique in that almost twice as many students were enrolled as in past years. Admissions Director Richard Fuller was unavailable for comment.

Regardless of how they came to Hamilton, the new students seem to be happily adjusting to college life and experiencing their first week on the hill.

ACCESS gives women a second chance

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pus cultural events, and free lunch. Child-care is also provided.

The women selected for the program had to go through a rigorous admission process, which included personal interviews and the submission of essays explaining their interest in the program and their views on other issues.

The ACCESS students range in age from 19 to 46. All have high-school diplomas or GED equivalency degrees. The Hamilton administration presented an extensive orientation program in which President Tobin made an encouraging speech of welcome to the women.

The College initially considered mainstreaming ACCESS students with other Hamilton students, but eventually decided that keeping the group together would provide the women with a more beneficial, tight-knit, and supportive learning environment, although, two women opted to take some courses with Hamilton students.

This term, the students will take courses in mathematics, introduction to theater, learning academic language through Latin, and the history of motherhood. These are all taught by Hamilton College faculty. One day a week, the women will partake in workshops on computer use, job skills, academic research, writing, and family enrichment.

The social service coordinator of the project, Kathleen Jordan-Salzman, remarked that everyone in the project is excited because of how welcoming the Hamilton community has been. Many members of the Hamilton community seem to want to get on board, and Jordan-Salzman stressed that students are welcome to stop by the ACCESS center, as many have already done, if they want to help out or get involved with the program.

Two of the women in the program, Karen Piccione and Janelle Mills, were very pleased and excited about the program. Piccione and Mills noted that orientation helped the group get acquainted with each other and set up a solid support system. It was particularly helpful to the women in the program who have not had any kind of college exposure before.

On the very first day, the group established a phone tree so the women could get in touch with each other to ask about homework or other concerns.

Piccione, who has studied both nursing and accounting, has career aspirations in the field of psychology, while Mills is interested in family law. Both Piccione and Mills remarked that the professors have all been wonderful. They particu-
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COURTESY OF ACCESS PROJECT
Students in the ACCESS program attend one of their four classes.

MLK Jr. Day celebrated with food, music and speeches

by Sarah Karalunas
NEWS EDITOR

Hamilton College may not give students a day off from classes to celebrate Doctor Martin Luther King Junior's life, but they celebrate in other ways. In a dinner held in McEwen dining hall on Jan. 15, students and faculty played music and read poems, stories, and newspaper articles to honor Dr. King.

The Doc Woods and Zoe Jazz Ensemble opened the dinner, followed by formal remarks from President Gene Tobin and representatives from the Africana Studies department and the Kirkland Project.

Discussion then opened to the attending students and faculty, many of whom addressed not only King's work, but the work still left to be done.

Keithley Woolward '01 read an article from an Atlanta newspaper about the political and racial significance of the confederate flag. In southern states where the flag still hangs on the capitol building, the true significance of the emblem is under debate.

Historical and cultural evidence indicate that the flag originally "was a racial signal of defiance in Washington" around the time of the Brown v. Board of Education decision. Others argue that it is a benign state emblem.

President Tobin and others also addressed recent campus events, like the racist graffitti left on Koert Wehberg's '04 door: "We have to call attention to these events for positive purposes, not just try and smooth things over," he said.

"It (racism) won't stop unless people make in real," said Cecilia Odoch-Jato '02. "Unless it becomes a daily struggle for you like it is a daily struggle for me your signs don't mean anything," she continued referring to anti-racism signs some students hung around campus.

Despite slow progress in recent years, there was a call for optimism by many at the dinner who noted that although King seemed to know his life would be too short to see the fruition of his dreams, he remained hopeful. "That we aren't there yet shouldn't be a call for pessimism," said the faculty representative.

"It's easy to rise to the occasion. It's hard to sustain the energy. I hope tonight is a night for sustaining the energy," said Kirkland project coordinator Nancy Rabinowitz.

New Year, New Leadership, New Ideas

by Maurice Michaane '03
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the new year rolls in for Hamilton students, so does new leadership at the helm of the Student Assembly. Last semester students elected Ray Ash '02 and Deenah Byramjee '03, President and Vice President of the Student Body. As is the case with any new administration, Ash and Byramjee have a slew of bold and new ideas they would like to see accomplished during their term.

During the campaign each expressed interest in helping the student body move forward in a positive and forceful direction using their past experience on the Student Assembly: "We see ourselves in the mainstream of student thinking and we want to accomplish things for the average student, that's why we ran, and that's why we are here now."

Among some of the most important issues they would like to see accomplished during their term in office is the development of a student union: "There are many important tasks we need to tackle, but centralizing a student union for us to gather at is a high priority."

Some of the other projects discussed at the Student Assembly meeting last Monday were a review of parking regulations, more town hall meetings with greater administration and faculty participation, increased funding for student groups on campus, uses of the Little Pub and a review of the Judicial Board and its practices.

An important topic that came up during the opening meeting for the Assembly was the NESCAC issue. The NESCAC policy is being reviewed by all NESCAC College Presidents. This policy specifically handles post-season play. Under the plans only NESCAC champions advance to the NCAA's, thereby eliminating At-Large bids to the tournaments.

A majority of the Assembly is against the position of limiting NESCAC to only sending NESCAC conference champs to the NCAAs.

Steve Guditus, Class of 2001 President, and Maurice Michaane, Class of 2003 President, will be heading up a Student Assembly Committee to review this policy and its affects on athletes. Ash stated that increased post-season play only increases school spirit and that teams like our soccer team would not have advanced to the NCAA's if not for the at-large bid.

"Our school is strong academically and post-season play will only help our students not hurt them," Byramjee said.

Throughout the meeting Ash and Byramjee re-enforced the idea that the Student Assembly is at the disposal of the greater student body and that the students should hold the Assembly accountable.

The Student Assembly meets in the basement of Bristol every Monday night at 9 p.m., and all are encouraged to attend to voice their opinions and concerns.

Mallman returns

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playing the violin again. "I might be a little out of practice because of my broken collar bone, but I am looking forward to it," she say.

Although her accident was devastating, Mallman says, "I have learned that I made a great decision by attending Hamilton. I could not be happier about where I chose to go to school."

Residents escape fire unscathed

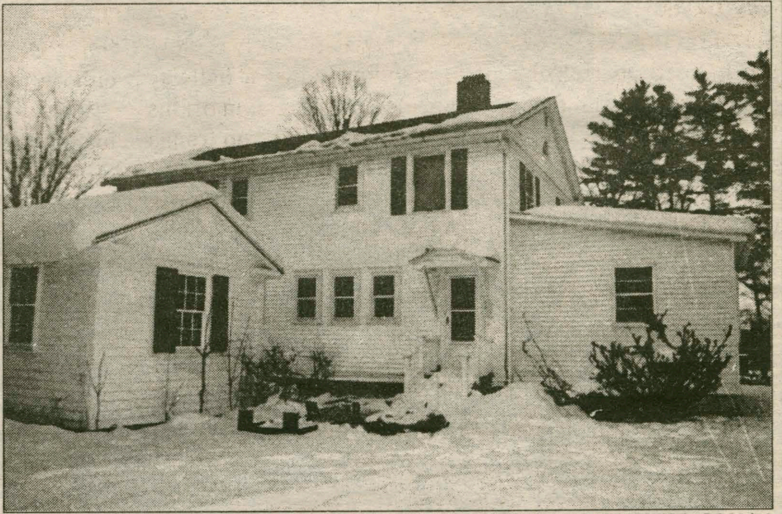
PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER LAROSA '03
A fire at one Griffin Road on January 15 caused $13K in damage.

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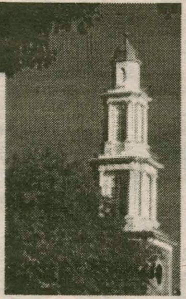
and two engines responded to the call. Approximately $13K of damage resulted from the fire.

With the residents' belongings damaged, community members were quick to respond.

Steve Guditus '01, president of the senior class, originally sought help from only a few. "I sent a message to the members of the track team and ASB members and before I knew it I had people mailing me from Colgate asking what they could do to help."

Donations of clothes helped the teaching fellows in the days after the fire. Toys and books were given to Carlos Solano, whose quick discovery and reaction to the fire contributed to its early exhaustion.

IVORY TOWERS



THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Sarah Karalunas '04

College votes to discontinue sports

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — When its men's basketball and baseball schedules end this spring, Aquinas College will discontinue its athletics program for financial reasons.

Those sports had been the only ones offered by the Catholic school. The board of directors decided to end all athletics in mid-December and informed students, faculty and staff on Tuesday.

"Our school is too small to start a four-year athletics program, and the board felt it would be too high at this point," president Mary Evelyn said Thursday.

Aquinas became a four-year college in 1994 but continued to compete at the junior-college level.

"There was a concern that we were sending a mixed message," Evelyn said. "... It's not a happy step, but it's a step we have to take."

Aquinas won the National Junior College Athletic Association basketball championship in 1991 under coach Charlie Anderson, who has been with the school since 1982 and is 440-176 in 20 seasons.

Dig ends near American Univ. campus

WASHINGTON (AP) — The search for World War I-era poisons buried in the soil of American University's campus ended Thursday with no initial evidence of chemical weapons agents.

The Army Corps of Engineers began digging a 200-square-foot area on the northwest Washington campus Monday. Workers wearing protective clothing removed 160 drums filled with soil and debris, which will now be tested. Results were not expected until at least next week.

The Army used the area along the university's southwestern side for lab disposal during World War I. Records from the time period mention research and tests of 48 poisonous gases.

While soil samples must still be tested, a corps spokesman said it is "pretty unlikely" that agents or residue will be found.

"We found no intact containers holding any fluids or substances ..., and none of the air-monitoring equipment detected any mustard or Lewicite agents during the excavation work," Maj. Brian Plaisted said.

Both mustard gas and Lewisite were used as weapons in World War I.

Three university buildings and five nearby homes were evacuated during the dig. The school is on winter break, so there was minimal affect campus activities.

The five families displaced by the excavation were allowed back in their homes Thursday evening. Plaisted said they will be reimbursed by the corps for their living expenses.

Seton Hall fire still a mystery

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — Shawn Simons was moving too fast to feel any pain, crawling down a hallway through smoke and flames that peeled layers of skin off his face and hands. He wouldn't feel it until he woke up from a coma in the hospital two weeks later.

A year after the fire at a Seton Hall University dormitory that killed three of Simons' fellow students, prosecutors have yet to arrest anyone in a case they have investigated as arson from the start.

"I don't see how this person lives with himself, knowing that they caused so much damage," said Simons, 19, glancing down at his scarred, skin-grafted hands. "I'm more angry at the fact that this person won't be man enough to admit it."

The blaze in a third-floor lounge of Boland Hall sent more than 600 students fleeing into freezing cold before dawn last Jan. 19; 58 were treated for everything from frostbite to burns.

The tragedy stirred debate about campus safety across the nation and led to a state law requiring fire sprinklers in all college dorm rooms.

After the blaze, Seton Hall students said they used to sleep through fire alarms because so many of them were pranks, and they complained that the university had not trained them well enough to escape.

Now, university officials say there are no more prank fire alarms, and resident advisers say students who once slept through fire alarms never miss a fire drill. There are also stricter fire safety policies, and smoke alarms that connect to South Orange's fire department have been installed in each dorm room.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Sarah Karalunas '04

Statue depicts FDR in wheelchair

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four-year-old Hannah McFadden, an Albanian immigrant born with a leg deformity, didn't need her mother to explain the significance of Wednesday's unveiling of a statue depicting President Franklin D. Roosevelt in a wheelchair.

AP

A wheelchair-bound President Franklin Roosevelt in a February 1941 photo.

"It means people on crutches and in a wheelchair can do anything," said Hannah, sporting hot-pink crutches for the ceremony in which President Clinton dedicated the statue.

Disabled groups have long advocated the addition to the Roosevelt memorial, which spans 7.5 acres near the Potomac River. The massive monument features waterfalls, shade trees and another sculpture of the president who led the country through the Great Depression and World War II.

Deborah McFadden, who adopted Hannah and a disabled Russian immigrant, couldn't help but feel patriotic.

"In their countries, people die from their disabilities — they're put in a closet and hoped they don't live," McFadden said. "But here in America, we don't hide. The president comes out to honor disabled people."

The bronze sculpture, depicting Roosevelt in his self-designed combination kitchen stool-commercial wheelchair, sits at the park's entrance as a prologue to the chronological story of the Roosevelt years. Clinton said he especially liked that it is low enough for those in wheelchairs to touch.

Wacky warnings get point across

DETROIT (AP) — Be warned: "Shin pads cannot protect any part of the body they do not cover."

That label on a pair of shin guards beat out nearly 100 competitors Wednesday to win the Michigan Lawsuit Abuse Watch's Wacky Warning Labels contest.

"I picked up the label and found it absolutely ridiculous," said Joe Schanderson, who won $500 for submitting the entry.

M-LAW, a nonprofit group formed in 1997, seeks to call attention to the effects of product-liability lawsuits. Contest winners were announced Wednesday after Michigan Talk Radio Network callers voted on five finalists two weeks ago. Schanderson's find beat out a label affixed to a toilet inside a public restroom: "Recycled flush water unsafe for drinking."

Other runners-up included:

— "Warning: Riders of personal watercraft may suffer injury due to forceful injection of water into body cavities either by falling into the water or while mounting the craft."

— A warning on an electric router: "This product not intended for use as a dental drill."

— A warning on a novelty rock garden set (called "Popcorn Rock"): "Eating rocks may lead to broken teeth!"

Gov. decries H.S. seniors' boredom

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even many smart kids are slacking off during their senior year of high school, the Education Department said Wednesday in the final study released by outgoing Education Secretary Richard Riley.

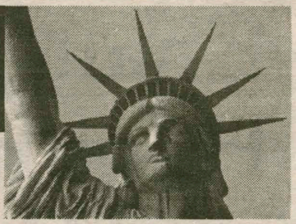
"Our high schools haven't necessarily changed, but the world has changed," Riley said at a news conference. 'At this level, we should be more committed to our children, not less."

The report by a panel appointed by Riley and including Education Secretary-designate Rod Paige suggests that high schools are neglecting 12th graders, who in turn are neglecting their classes.

The panel, whose findings were based existing research and student interviews, offered few solutions in the first of its two reports. It concluded that mass boredom afflicts the student admitted early to college just as the classmate on the brink of dropping out.

Researchers who interviewed seniors last fall said college-bound students often have too few classes to keep them occupied; others, not encouraged to take advanced classes once they have met the minimum required for a diploma, focus on outside work.

NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Sarah Karalunas '04

Australians protest kissing rules

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — About 100 protesters puckered up in public Sunday to protest restrictions on kissing at a Brisbane, Australia park.

The mass smooch, at which 50 couples kissed, was a show of solidarity with two gay men who were ejected from the city-run South Bank Parklands last weekend for kissing in public.

Mark Pendleton, a protester with the National Union of Students, accused the park of discriminating against homosexuals.

"We don't see South Bank Parklands kicking off heterosexuals you see at the park, so we don't think there is any reason why gay couples should be not allowed to do that as well," Pendleton said.

A spokeswoman for the park said couples of both sexual persuasions had been asked to "tone it down" in the park, which is popular with families.

Mexico questioned on foreigners

YIBELJO, Mexico (AP) — President Vicente Fox has promised to stop deporting politically active foreigners. But a protest by American and Canadian peace activists in southern Chiapas state last week has renewed the debate about foreigners mixing in Mexico's domestic politics.

Fox's stance is quite a shift from decades of government insistence that foreigners be deported if they express political views here.

In 1998 and 1999, hundreds were expelled from Chiapas after the government accused them of supporting the leftist Zapatista rebels here and suggested they were seeking to turn the state into a haven for young anarchists.

AP

A Canadian and two Americans pray in front of the military headquarters of Guadalupe Teteyac.

"It's a balancing act," said Felipe de Jesus Preciado, Mexico's new chief immigration official, describing the government's policy of welcoming visitors — but keeping them out of politics.

Fox, who took office in December, signaled his desire for more openness by having his spokeswoman chat with the fasting peace activists and by inviting foreign diplomats to Chiapas on Wednesday to watch the dismantling of a military base.

"For good or ill, the Chiapas conflict is watched by the whole world, so we can't draw a curtain over it," said Preciado, who thinks most foreigners come to Mexico "with good intentions."

Two women ski to South Pole

(AP) - Two adventurers bidding to become the first women to ski across Antarctica reached the South Pole on Tuesday, pulling in for a full day of rest and fresh supplies after two months on open ice.

Explorers Ann Bancroft and Liv Arnesen reached the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station after 64 days of skiing and windsailing hampered by bad weather, including whiteouts and a lack of wind to help push their sleds.

"It's been a long trip and we're delighted to finally be at this juncture of it," Bancroft said in a satellite phone interview with The Associated Press. "We're having the time of our lives."

Bancroft, 45, of Scandia, Minn., and Liv Arnesen, 47, of Oslo, Norway, have covered nearly 1,300 miles. They planned to rest about 24 hours before setting out for the final leg, estimated by their Web site at 900 miles.

The two had hoped to begin their journey Nov. 1, but were forced to wait 12 days in South Africa until the Antarctic weather cleared enough to let their plane land. They had still hoped to arrive at the Pole by Christmas but were delayed by the poor weather.

Charlie Hartwell, president of a Minneapolis company supporting the expedition, said the pair were patching sails with dental floss by the time they reached the Pole and had rationed their food over the past two weeks.

Changes in store – Barnes & Noble to give Hamilton Bookstore new look, merchandise

by Sarah Karalunas '04
NEWS EDITOR

Over the next several months the Hamilton College Bookstore will receive new merchandise, a new look, and a new manager, all courtesy of Barnes & Nobles Booksellers.

After reviewing an outside consultant's report, a committee of students, faculty, and administrators determined that hiring an outside contractor to run the bookstore would best serve students' needs.

"The report showed that we were well-run financially, but that we weren't serving the needs of the main constituency, the students," said Vice President of Administration and Finance Dan O'Leary.

"You should see an increase in the person-to-person contact, and the whole store will become more service oriented," said O'Leary.

In March, when Barnes & Noble and the College officially sign the contract, students can expect a change in the bookstore's look, although no one is exactly sure what the new look will be.

Barnes & Noble will not be able to lower the cost of books; however, they will expand the services and merchandise the bookstore provides.

"We're moving into the information age and they'll carry more than just academic stuff," says Maurice Michaane, President of the Class of 2003. "They'll be able to carry a lot more leisure reading books and possibly a video rental section."

These changes will benefit both students and alumni, says Michaane, who hopes that having more merchandise will encourage alumni to buy gifts at the bookstore.

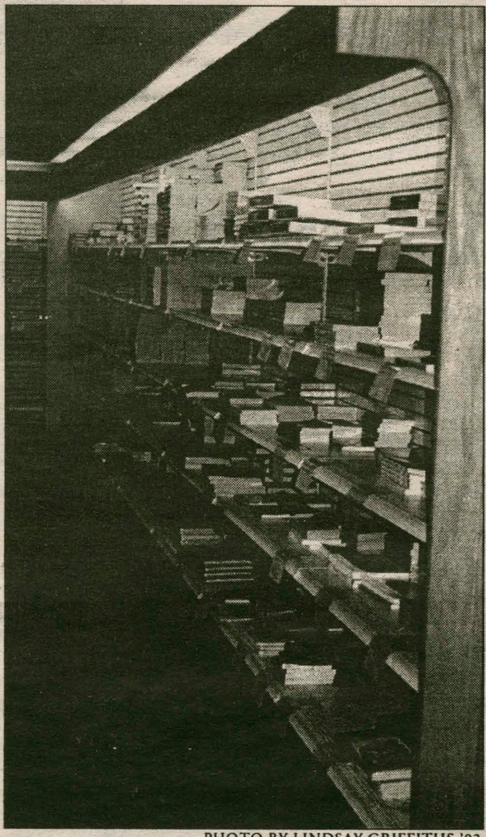


PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02

Barnes and Noble will take over management of the Hamilton College Bookstore in March.

The bookstore hours concern many students. Although Barnes & Noble has not set specific hours, O'Leary says that adapted hours will be a part of their plan to better serve students. In addition they hope to add a web site from which students can order books.

The committee also looked at the location of the bookstore after receiving many student requests for a more central location. "It's a little off the beaten path," says O'Leary. "It won't be a change you'll see right away, but we're looking at other possible locations in the Beinecke Village area."

The possibility of taking consumers away from local businesses concerned some committee members; however, the company's representative stressed that the division of the company that runs campus bookstores operates separately from the national chain.

"Most people don't know that Barnes & Noble started in the 1800s as a college bookstore," says Michaane. Members of the family who founded Barnes & Noble still own the division of the company that runs the campus stores and have experience working with local businesses.

In addition, points out O'Leary, any decisions concerning the bookstore will be made only after consultation with members of the college administration. "It will still be the Hamilton College Bookstore, but with a little Barnes & Noble flavor," says O'Leary.

Despite reassurances, three bookstore employees quit after learning of the upcoming change, and while Barnes & Noble agreed to keep the remaining employees, most don't know exactly what will change or how those changes will affect them. "Don't worry. No matter what, we'll be here to take care of you," said one current employee.

A new Barnes & Noble store will also open in New Hartford, although the two stores will be in no way connected.

Follett and Wallace's, two other book sellers, also put in bids for the contract, but, Barnes & Noble's experience drew many of the committee members to accept their proposal over the other two submitted.

In addition to continuing existing services and expanding, Barnes & Noble will also help to fund a scholarship for students, says O'Leary.

The change in management could bring the bookstore to "a whole new dimension," says Michaane. "I really hope it will become a spot on the admissions tour. It will be a place you can go knowing that what you need will be there."

ACCESS

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larly enjoy the theater and history courses they've been taking.

Piccione is especially excited to be at Hamilton because she went to high school in Utica. It was always in some ways her dream to come to Hamilton. Mills quit school at 16 and got her GED five years ago. She juggles a full time job at a factory along with the program. She recently rearranged her schedule so she can work twelve-hour shifts on the weekends.

Mills and Piccione stressed that they are in the program not only to learn and grow, but also to inspire their children and set a good example. Piccione remarked that ACCESS is "an excellent resource that will allow us to go far if we fully commit to it." She wants students to remember, "the education that we all are receiving is a precious gift, and it's up to us to make what we can out of it."

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Editorial

Last Monday passed like most other Mondays. A few students had the headache of adding a fourth credit to their schedules, finding a physics class in an obscure science laboratory, or finishing a room change. In all likelihood, fewer students spent time reflecting on one of our most important national holidays, Martin Luther King Day, than they did bemoaning their eight or nine o'clock classes.

Martin Luther King Day, like most other national holidays at Hamilton, was spent with students and professors in class either oblivious to the date or envious that the rest of our country was at rest to honor one of the world's greatest citizens.

We need not be at rest to honor the individuals who have helped make our society what it is today. Discussing, recognizing, and remembering our heros' achievements are superior means of honoring those men and women whom we hold in high esteem. But for most of us, Monday passed with neither rest nor remembrance. We ask: was there an opportunity for either?

The Kirkland Project, Diversity Task Force, Program in Africana Studies, Office of the President, Office of the Dean of Students, and Office of the Dean of Faculty jointly sponsored a dinner in McEwen. The dinner came on short notice, however, leaving many students unaware of the event. Hopefully, this is the reason student attendance at the event was not of the magnitude it ought to have been.

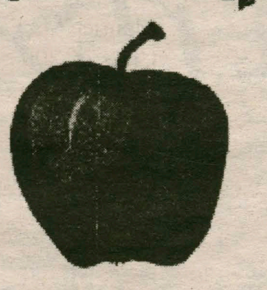
The dinner, although well-executed, was a peripheral event in our daily routines. For some in attendance, it merely coincided with the usual evening meal. This weekend many students will be performing community service in remembrance of Martin Luther King. Scheduling and physical limitations will dictate that this worthwhile event involve only a small fraction of students.

Hamilton needs a central event for our national holiday. Perhaps the solution we are looking for is a time during the day when all offices close and classes are suspended, during which time the college community could meet in the Chapel, Wellin, or the Field House to collectively honor Martin Luther King.

Last semester we all bore witness to a grotesque act of racism and discrimination on our campus. Martin Luther King's life illustrates the story of how an individual can make a difference. It shows us the hideous face of hate and the lasting change which comes from love and self-sacrifice.

Through a day of remembrance, history can teach us important lessons we should never again learn first-hand. We need to be thinking of ways to grow as members of our society on national holidays. The next time an opportunity comes along, we need to be sure we are not so preoccupied with our daily concerns that we forget the cost of our freedom.

CLINTON CIDER MILL



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One day in McEwen... *Matthew Speer '03*

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The Editorial represents the opinion of a majority of The Spectator *Editorial Board. The Hamilton College* Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. Subscriptions are $60 per year, or $30 per semester. Our offices are located on the third floor of Bristol Campus Center. The deadline for personals, letters, and advertisements is Tuesday the week of publication. For further information, please call (315) 859-4100 or e-mail to spec@hamilton.edu.*

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Insights & Ideas

Exploring the Utica Community

"Freedom is indivisible or it is nothing at all besides sloganeering and temporary, short-sighted, and short-lived advancement for a few. Freedom is indivisible and either we are working for freedom or you are working for the sake of your self-interest and I am working for mine."

- June Jordan
"A New Politics of Sexuality."

Over winter break, approximately twelve Hamilton students,

Jaime Skiba

of various academic interests and backgrounds, returned to The Hill a few days early in order to combine their efforts with a small group of professors. They sought to create a positive impact on our community here at school by moving out beyond the physical boundaries of this college. They participated in the newly founded Urban Service Experience (USE) in Utica, which lasted from Wednesday, January 10 until Saturday, January 13.

The USE project was announced to the campus late in the fall semester; the response was very positive and immediate. Thanks to funding from the Kirkland Project and the Office of the President, the pilot was an "Alternative Spring Break-like program" in which one can "live and work in Utica for a few days and help out some local organizations," with the added opportunity to experience the cultural life of Utica.

The group was originally to include ten students and two faculty advisors, but it expanded to include eleven students and a core tag team ten professors and administrators. Some of the faculty involved were Vivyan Adair, Cheryl Morgan, Nese Balkan, Nancy Rabinowitz, Katheryn Doran, Martine Guyot-Bender, Judy Owens-Manley, Gillian Gane, John Bartle, Carol Drogus, Rit Fuller and Jeff McArn. The students were Christine Capeless, Stephanie Baker, Jessica Haab, Sarah Rieber, Linwood Rumney, Amanda Siepioli, Jaime Skiba, Melissa Stoos, Jenny Taransky, Thu Nguyen, and Amanda Taylor. It was this group that slept on the floor of Westminster Church for two nights and participated in the program, plus a younger Balkan and Adair for Friday night.

One of the main focuses of the weekend was that it is almost too easy to remain in a comfort zone that guarantees us food, housing, and an education. That is, it is easy to separate ourselves from the rest of the world on an isolated college campus. It is this transparent wall between us and the rest of the world that keeps us "safe" (a term used loosely, as this does depend on race, sex, gender, ethnicity, ability, and/or sexuality) from the outside world, while at the same time robbing us of the diversity and history of nearby Utica.

Although many of us may only live in this area for the four years required for graduation, this does not mean that we should ignore the larger community around us that has needs and could use our assistance. Upon first arriving to Hamilton, a new student is almost completely discouraged from spending time or money in Utica, as if the admittedly run-down burgh is not worth the time or effort required for a visit.

The USE program challenged these assumptions with an architectural/historical tour of Utica, a tour of social services in Utica, a visit to the Munson Williams Proctor Art Institute, visits to different restaurants and coffeehouses, and most importantly by offering community service experiences in a variety of settings. These included cooking and cleaning at Hope House, helping at St. Francis de Sales after school program, bowling with kids from the House of the Good Shepherd, and spending time with senior citizens at the Loretto Center. We also paid a visit to the Refugee Center in Utica and learned how the city is planning to and has utilized the resettlement of refugees to help bolster and rebuild Utica.

The history of Utica was another major emphasis, which we learned about by watching a documentary, as well as by traveling through the city. Perhaps the movie theme was a trifle bland, but it became clear that Utica was at one point a productive and lively city that would have stood in stark contrast to the depression of modern-day Utica.

With the migration of factories from the Central New York area to the South (and eventually abroad), as well as the closing of military bases in the area, Utica gradually succumbed to the depression that grips the city to this day. Perhaps the most refreshing aspect of the program was that even though many of the people we met lead very hard lives, they are very hopeful about Utica's future, and are convinced that the city may re-establish the respectability and grandeur of its heyday.

Most importantly, it became clear that just a few hours a week or month of volunteer time can make a big difference to the people that are assisted. So, while we are here at Hamilton, why not venture off the Hill and help them along?

USE plans to continue as a student-faculty run organization, with special emphasis on social work in Utica and opportunities to get involved during the semester, and future plans may include this experience as an alternative to the Adirondack Adventure for incoming first-year students.

Let the Semester Begin

So here we are again, back to the fantasy world called Hamilton College. Another semester begins full of new hopes, new goals, new classes, new faces, and new routines. With the beginning of each semester comes the chance to start over in small ways and make the changes necessary to continue to grow as a person and student.

Of course, in general, things here at Hamilton College stay pretty consistent, with change only coming at occasional times. But with each new semester there is

Seth O'Bryan

the chance for a fresh start and new possibilities, which is important because often in life we get so caught up in our ordinary routine and comfort zone that days pass by without even realizing it.

As a senior becoming aware of the light at the end of the tunnel, I sense the urgency of savoring the opportunities and benefits of being here. One realizes at this point that there is nothing to lose. A development occurs that involves balancing the desire to enjoy each day you have with your friends and at the same time doing all the things you wanted to do but never did.

Life is full of chance and randomness, and sometimes you think about how you made the friends you did here, but one can also wonder about the people who you could have been friends with, people you share common interests or traits with but you never met them or barely got to know them.

Personally, I'm thankful for the way chance has worked for me, but it's naturally to sometimes wonder about what could have been. There is too much to think about once the mind starts reflecting, one might think about the mistakes made during the Hamilton experience, mistakes with friends or relationships or in choices made in lifestyles or academics.

At the same time, one can think about the right choices made, and the chances we took that required courage to take them; memories of the good things that have happened easily warm the heart. It's funny; as you get older you learn to appreciate the little things that you've been given and lived through much more.

For example, as an athlete, I realize that in some ways the days of team competition are soon over. With that comes accepting that certain dreams will not come true, and a part of me wishes certain things turned out differently, but overall I will always be thankful for the memories and the incredible experiences I had competing and being on the teams I've been on.

So let the good times roll. It's good to be back on campus and listen to all the laughter and see the smiles. With that, I feel fortunate that in my life I've learned to enjoy each day as it is and to live life one day at a time. Then it follows to live life moment by moment, and nothing makes a moment more special than the sound of laughter or the sight of a smile. Although this might not be relevant, I get the thought that a good example of this at Hamilton is the daily mail check.

Every day after lunch my friends and I check our mail, and we do this even though everyday we are lucky if one of us gets mail. Despite the consistent rejection by the mail center, we continue to go each day in the hope of someday receiving something. But the thing is, the trip to the mail center is more than "checking mail" it's a simple bonding experience, and in the end we will remember walking and joking together each day more than whether or not we got any mail. It's funny how life works like that. We take it for granted all too often.

So anyway, Spring 2001 is here and what will you do? What new memories are you going to make? On any given day anything can happen, and that is the beauty and terror of life. Somehow we must accept that fact and then balance the human need for security and predictability while letting ourselves free and open to life as it is. I'm really not sure where to go from after that sentence. I guess it's just a reminder that sometimes we need to take a step back and realize where we are headed and what we are thinking before we continue with our regular approach.

Every once in awhile we need to check our premises and assumptions about our life and life in general. Now, before the semester gets going and routines get started, is a good time to check your approaches and assumptions about life here and then start with a different outlook.

Well, here we are, the first week of classes is done, and it's time to get used to doing homework again. Have a good weekend and don't be afraid to do something different.

Have an opinion?

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The Hamilton College Cable Television Extravaganza

What a glorious time in our Hamilton career! After three and a half long years of Simpson's reruns, M*A*S*H*, and hour after hour of the Gem Network, cable is now at our fingertips. Forty-two glorious channels through which we can surf during those intimate moments at home. While many on campus worry that cable will reduce Hamilton to a shut-in campus - which it already is - we at *The Spectator* champion our newfound ability to skip class and avoid doing homework so we can watch a full hour of Jenny Jones' makeovers. As a public service, we the editors of the Insights and Ideas section have put together a compendium of the new cable channels for your viewing pleasure.

2 C-Span2 - The beauty of C-Span2 is that you can always go there and find a man in a suit talking about something the American public knows little about. Plus most of the men are ugly.

3 NBC - Home of the peacock and Maury Povich. This week Maury is sending some bad girls to boot camp. Stay Tuned!

4 C-Span - Similar to C-Span2 but they mention committees more often. You have to wonder why C-Span2 precedes C-Span1, maybe that's what they are always talking about on these stations.

5 CBS - Bob Barker is old. Barker's Beauties are not old. What's the deal?

6 Utica NBC - See original NBC but add thicker upstate accents and an increased frequency of Jeff Gordon plugs and Forever Leather commercials.

7 A & E - Where else can you watch Magnum P.I. reruns early in the morning? T.C. and Rick never looked so good. The other day I saw the heartwarming life of 80's icon Steve Guttenberg on Biography. Don't pass it up.

8 TBS - Also known as the Superstation. The station's motto is "It's a guy thing". Mama's Family airs at 9AM weekdays. Enough said.

9 ABC - I could watch the View all day long. I think Barbara Walters looks dynamite for a woman of 36 years. On the other hand, I hope Starr Jones does not eat her.

10 TLC - TLC is not a substitute for going to class, unless you are a Home Ec major. However, TLC is the home of junkyard wars, a show in which smart people go to junkyards and create ballistic missles out of scrap metal. It's like MacGyver without the mullet. You will become smarter by watching this show.

11 PAX - How come Pax is fuzzy? Pax is dope. Have you seen Supermarket Sweep? Mark my words, some day my significant other and I will win the sweep in our matching teal sweatshirts.

12 UPN - UPN is not dope. It is produced by a colony of chimpanzees in Southern England. Avoid channel 12, it sucks.

13 The Hamilton College Station - This channel really hits home. The music on channel 13 is the kind of stuff you wish that WHCL played. Plus, you can find out important tidbits of information about Hamilton College, like who your ex-girlfriend is sleeping with. A good station to put on while staking.

14 tech tv - Has anyone ever heard of this? Does it make anyone else angry? Why do they have headphones on? Do they work at Old Navy? Is this the Old Navy Channel? I need to return my performance fleece.

15 The Discovery Channel - If you like ants, this is the station for you. Only watch on Sundays.

16 TNT - The only things to watch on TNT are Westerns and basketball games. If they put chaps on the Philadelphia 76's they could cut their programming in half. A good station to watch when grampy visits.

17 Fox Sports Net - Every newscaster on this station must be holding a football at all times. Fox Sports Net is an angry man's ESPN.

18 MTV - Do not watch MTV. It will make you angry. Carson Daly should be dragged through a crowd of 400 Britney Spear's fans. Their braces will stab him. What does MTV stand for? Music Television. When Ananda Lewis starts singing backup for the Kinks then we'll talk.

19 What's up with 19? There is nothing there. We watched it for fourteen hours and nothing came on. Can't we find a station to fit into the 19 slot? Perhaps a C-Span3 or ESPN5?

20 Utica ABC - Do we need Utica stations? If I wanted to immerse myself in local color, I could go down to Sangertown with a carton of cigarettes and a lip piercing. Plus there is no Bradlees anymore. Where am I going to find my LA Gear jeans and old Halloween candy?

21 USA - Also known as the Wings network. In the evening USA turns into a soft core porn haven with shows like Silk Stalkings and La Femme Nikita. I learned how to be a man from this station. If I were in Junior High I would watch this station constantly.

22 CNN Headline News - It's like C-Span with a kick. Watching this station will impress your professors. Also good to watch while doing a keg stand.

23 Nick - Do not ever watch Nickelodeon in the daytime. There is a face that talks to the children. It is frightening, beware. This station is for people under six and over 40. Nickelodeon hit its peak when Barth (also known as Officer Tackleberry from Police Acadamy) forced a Barth Burger down Alanis Morisette's throat on You Can't Do That on Television.

24 PBS - Ever notice how PBS is trying to be cool now? They have Art Garfunkel and Dione Warwick concerts on at night now. CAB should watch this station.

25 The Weather Channel - Who needs The Weather Channel when you have The Daily Bull's reliable forecast? Only watch if you cannot fall asleep when drunk.

26 CNBC - Do you like numbers? Then this is the station for you! CNBC has funny little numbers scrolling by 24 hours a day. One day they will run out of numbers and we will all have a good laugh.

27 Lifetime - Also known as the Sally Field Network. If men watch this station for more than ten minutes, shrinkage WILL occur. Does anyone else find it odd that Unsolved Mysteries is on six hours a day on Lifetime?

28, 29, & 30 - ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNews - Do they make up sports for these stations? If I want to watch Boise State play UTEP, I'll buy a plane ticket. Extreme games are all well and good but unless a bone is broken, I don't want to see it.

31 VH1 - Behind the Music is a fabulous show, the first time you see it. If I have to cry through the Milli Vanilli story one more time, I am going to give them back their Grammy. We have been here a week and I have seen the Michael Jackson video collection far too many times. Word to the wise, you can only run through the top 100 hundred records of all time once.

32 CNN - Nothing exciting ever happens on CNN. If I were Ted Turner, I would release a tiger into the CNN studios once a month and not tell them when it was coming. Now that's quality television.

33 FOX - How do they make new episodes of Real TV everyday? Are there that many dumb people in America? Does Real TV go to the Midwest and buy dirtbikes for people with a low IQ and nothing to do? Temptation Island is bad for you, watch four hours of Pax after every episode.

34 Cartoon Network - Scooby Doo has really come into his own on the Cartoon Network. But where are the Transformers, the GI Joe hour, and He-Man. He was the Master of the Universe after all. You ever watch that cartoon about the kid that turns into a car? Man that was cool.

35 Court TV - Whenever you turn to this station the "NFL Star Death Penalty Trial" will be on. Are they looking for another O.J.? What is going to happen when the trial is over? Is another NFL star going to have to step up? Do not watch this station, watch TNT instead.

36 BET - In an effort to increase diversity on The Hill, Hamilton College will be adding BET2 and 3 in the near future. WET (White Entertainment Television) was canceled because the cable provider realized that we were already getting the Wings Network.

37 Comedy Central - Nothing says good morning like Porky's 2: The Revenge. You can also watch every Saturday Night Live ever made on this station. Beware the Joe Piscopo years, it was a dark time in our nation's history.

38 E! Entertainment Television - This station allows viewers to hear the sordid affairs from the stars of Petticoat Junction. Gidget had a cocaine habit? Who knew? At exactly 11PM, this station, much like USA, begins playing soft core pornography with shows like Wild On Rio. This station may help you through those lonely winter nights.

39 MSNBC - Like C-Span but with fewer committees. I think they stole some of CNBC's numbers, good for them. MSNBC is basically a smorgasborg of other news chanels. It's like going to a Ponderosa for your mind.

40 History Channel - If you are too busy to watch this channel you can just give Alfred Kelly a call and he will come to your dorm room and read from his 11th grade social studies book. The History Channel has a lot of shows about World War II, but they may be overlooking some other key time periods. See Dean Pierce's Radio Mystery Plays.

41 M2 - This station is full of music videos that you have never, ever heard of and the Clash. Still, better than MTV.

42 TV5 - This channel is nice. I wish I could understand it.

That about sums it up. However, there are a number of glaring omissions in our new cable programming. Where is the WB? I can't watch four episodes of friends every night without the WB and if I don't see my weekly episode of Charmed I will NOT be in a chipper mood. How about TVLand? No A-Team Marathon's this year. Where are you FX? Food Network? Sci-Fi Channel?

Student Assembly, where are these sacred channels? Have those years of complaining been in vain? I can't tape Sex in the City, or fall asleep to the Red Shoe Diaries, but I guess these channels will do for now. God bless you cable television, now I can truly avoid saying hello to my fellow students on Martin's Way.

LETTERS

A Public Service Announcement to My Friends, My Professors (present and future), and the Remainder of the Hamilton Community:

When the announcement was made that the residence halls of Hamilton College were to be equipped with cable television access, many people were concerned with the potential impact of this change on students' lives. Their worst fears have been realized.

It is with much regret that I must inform you that, due to local programming schedules, I will no longer be able to attend classes nor social functions. I have given this decision much thought, and agonized over its consequences. Nevertheless, I am afraid that there is no other way that I can balance the responsibilities of college with the new-found freedom of cable. Please alert the management of Bon Appetit that I require my meals to be delivered to my room.

If you wish to reach me concerning this matter, I suggest that you contact the Advertising Sales Department of WUTR, Utica News Channel 20. I must end this letter prematurely so that I may decide between MTV's "Real World / Road Rules Extreme Challenge", and "The Forever Leather Show", staring Charlie Celi.

Regretfully,

Thomas M. Keane '03

The science pages

College puts a green foot forward in waste removal

by Sam Evans '01
SCIENCE EDITOR

A chemical waste treatment and storage contractor has been on campus twice in the last two weeks to remove chemicals generated in Hamilton's laboratories, printshop and art studios. Part of the work done by Cleanharbors, Inc. was routine waste removal that usually happens about twice a year.

PHOTO BY SAM EVANS '01

With kevlar vests, heavy gloves and protective head gear, the high-hazards team stabilized dangerous chemicals behind the Chemistry building last Wednesday.

In light of the eventual move into a new science facility, heightened Environmental Protection Agency regulations, and a general commitment by the college to modernize and streamline its waste handling practices, this visit was something of a milestone. Hamilton's newly appointed Director of Environmental Protection and Safety, Brian Hansen, has worked closely with officials ranging from the Biology department to Physical Plant in the past few months to bring the college waste stores up to health, environmental and safety standards.

Over the last 30 years, the EPA has learned that small institutions such as Hamilton have different waste handling needs than their traditional focus of attention. Instead of producing massive quantities of only a few types of waste, Hamilton produces small quantities of many kinds of waste. The college hired Hansen to address the school's unique needs.

Further demonstrating a committment to environmentally sensible practices, the college contracted the more expensive Cleanharbors, one of the safest and most environmentally sensitive TSDFs (treatment, storage and disposal facility) in the market. Hamilton is a small quantity generator (SQG) which means that the college generates between 100 and 1000 kg of hazardous waste per month.

The transport and storage of hazardous waste is strictly regulated by both the EPA, the Department of Transportation local and state laws.

According to Hansen, approximately 75 percent of the waste removed in the last two weeks is unused inventory, not just waste. Hansen hopes to reduce waste by avoiding it in the first place. In addition to overseeing waste inventories from the Ceramics to the Chemistry Department, Hansen seeks to promote general awareness about the proper ways to handle hazardous waste.

"The hiring of a Director of Environmental Protection and safety was a great leap toward having a centralized and comprehensive safety and waste management program," said Director of Laboratories Anne DeLia.

Last Wednesday, two technicians from Cleanharbors arrived in a small truck to take an initial look at the stores of chemical in need of disposal in the basement of the Saunders Chemistry Building. Officially called a high-hazard team (hi-haz for short), their goal was to take inventory of all of the chemicals to be removed, but more importantly to stabilize any compounds that might pose serious threats to a removal team. They stabilized some 35 jars of chemicals, which were removed during the main removal operation, or "lab-pack," this Wednesday.

Virtually all chemistry and biology laboratories generate waste from experiments that use various solvents or reagents. These chemicals are necessary for faculty to illustrate important scientific principles, teach students lab practices and carry out their own research. While some compounds are relatively benign, others can be very dangerous if handled improperly.

Acetone, a common solvent that constitutes the bulk of the chemistry department's liquid waste, is flammable yet relatively easy to handle because it is stable. The ether solvent dioxane, however, is far more dangerous. Given time sitting in a bottle, ethers can react with oxygen to form peroxide salts. Peroxide salts are shock sensitive, meaning that the mere force of unscrewing a bottle top can potentially trigger an explosion.

Dioxane is classified as a carcinogen by the EPA, and it can cause nervous system, liver and kidney damage, but companies like Cleanharbors are prepared to handle such chemicals. Last Wednesday, the hi-haz team removed six one-gallon jugs of dioxane, in addition to numerous other unstable compounds, and successfully prepared them for transport to either a waste storage or processing facility in Baltimore, MD. The chemicals were picked up this Wednesday during the lab-pack.

In order to safely handle the dioxane bottles, the hi-haz team first determined exactly what chemicals and containers they needed to stabilize and then transport the waste. The main goal of the stabilization process is simply to reduce the potential for explosion; often times a simple dilution of the waste is sufficient for safe travel. Dioxane requires dilution in a 10% water and ethanol solution; other chemicals require kerosene. Ethanol is simply alcohol, found in low concentrations in cocktails, beer and Mad Dog 20/20.

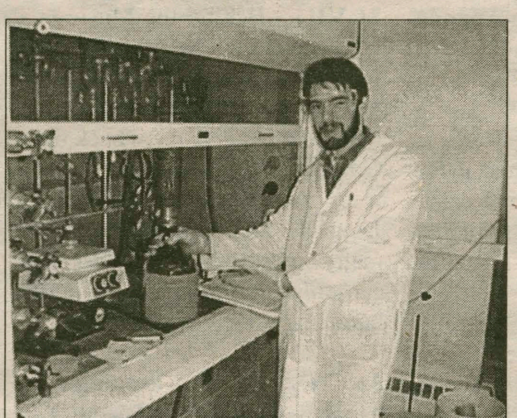

PHOTO BY SAM EVANS '01

Chemistry professor Ian Rosenstein demonstrates the proper way to label hazardous waste containers.

The team separated all of the compounds needing stabilization and placed them into a latched steel box in the basement of the chemistry building. Moving slowly and carefully, they brought the box outside to the trailer of their truck, which carried a cube about the size of a U-haul trailer unit. The technicians explained that the cube contained a nitrogen gas-driven motor to remove the tops of containers. When sealed, the cube is explosion-proof, and contains a fire extinguishing system that releases eight pounds of solid fire extinguisher if the internal temperature reaches 175 degrees farenheit.

The technicians were also equipped with police issue bullet-proof vests, heavy gloves and helmets with face masks (to guard against exploding containers or chemicals). Their moves were well coordinated and well rehearsed. As one opened the chamber and placed the container inside, the other stood ready with a fire extinguisher about 10 feet away, and a clear view of the chamber's interior. After the chamber was opened upon removal of a container top, the chamber operator waited for a visual go-ahead from his coworker before reaching into the cube.

The bottles were then placed to the side and the contents mixed with appropriate stabilizing agents. During one stabilization procedure last year at another institution, a 4-ounce bottle of picric acid detonated inside the cube, blasting the cap removal machinery off its foundation and triggering the fire extinguishing system. Last Wednesday's stabilization was successful and without incident according to Brian Hansen.

LOCAL TREASURE: ROME SAND PLAINS

by Sam Evans '01
SCIENCE EDITOR

When you think of sand dunes, you probably conjure images of beaches, oceans and generally coastal environments. In the area of Rome, NY, about 20 miles northwest of here, an inland dune formation spreads over roughly a thousand acres. Sand dunes in up-state New York??!!

PHOTO BY SAM EVANS '01

A dune at the Rome Sand Plains. The unique area is inhabited by plants capable of surviving in a sandy environment.

Dubbed the Rome Sand Plains over a hundred years ago by local residents, central New York's sand dunes are complete with gently sloping mounds of sand and unique vegetation. Few people know about the Rome Sand Plains, but a fascinating story of natural processes and conservation issues can be found right at Hamilton's back door.

The Rome Sand Plains are the product of glacial might. Roughly 13 thousand years ago, an ice mass known as the Laurentide Ice Sheet buried much of what is now western and parts of central New York.

The Laurentide Ice Sheet covered some ten million square kilometers of land and contained an estimated 20 million cubic kilometers of water. Geologists believe that

See Rome Sand Plains, next page

ROME SAND PLAINS

from Rome Sand Plains, previous page

the ice sheet contained enough water to change global sea levels by about 165 feet.

Toward the end of the last ice age, about 13 thousand years ago, the Laurentide Ice Sheet was retreating to the northwest, gradually uncovering land as it went. Deglaciation involves melting ice, and water flows down hill. Water that accumulated underneath the ice mass began to trickle toward lower elevation, picking up bits of sand and gravel as it traveled toward the front of the glacier.

As the ice mass retreated massive amounts of sand were dumped into a formation geologists call an Esker Fan. At that time, however, the ancestor of Oneida Lake, named Lake Iroquois, was vastly larger than it is today. The front of the retreating glacier abutted the massive body of water, and the sandy outwash from under the glacier flowed southeast into the lake and settled on the bottom. As the glacier continued to retreat, Lake Iroquois was breached, and it emptied into the Hudson River, forming what is now the Mohawk River.

When the water level in Lake Iroquois dropped, sand deposited by the Esker was exposed to northwesterly winds. Thousands of years of wind blew the sand into dune-like formations that we can see today.

If you try pouring water into a clear cup of sand, you will see that the water quickly flows to the bottom of the cup. Compared to soil, sand retains water very poorly; sandy areas are usually dry on the surface, regardless of how much rain falls, as water simply sinks down to the local water table. Life, however, was not to be deterred.

Similar to beach dunes, the Rome Sand Plains boasts its own array of greenery that is uniquely adapted to life in a sandy environment. Most plants found in the droughty region have shallow root systems because they absorb water over a greater surafce area.

When it rains, those plants soak up more water than less adapted species, giving them a necessary resource for longer life and greater reproduction. Some of the species that survive in the Rome Sand Plains include pitch pine, scrub oak, cranberry and blueberry. One small violet-colored flower, the lupine, has attracted the attention of several biologists here on campus.

Like its surroundings, the lupine is unique. Despite its sandy home, the lupine root system is capable of reaching as deep as three meters. Lupines are also essential to the survival of the frosted elfin, a small blue butterfly that has been placed on the New York State Endangered Species List.

This rare insect will only lay its eggs on the leaves of lupine plants, and lupines are not the sturdiest of the species found at the Rome Sand Planes. A precarious balance exists between the lupine, frosted elfin, and citizens who seek either to develop the land or use it for recreational purposes.

The public began to take interest in the Sand Plains during the early 1970s, when a local mining company began to take sand from the area. Since then, the Nature Conservancy, the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Izaak Walton League, a local conservation group, took joint control of major poritons of the Sand Plains.

Since dunes are unique to inland areas, the Rome Sand Plains are of special interest to biologists and geologists who seek to understand the history and evolution of the area. At low points in the area, water collects into bogs, which themselves are home to several rare species of plants. Such rare diversity is just one of the reasons that the Rome Sand Plains has sparked public and scientific interest.

Early last summer seniors Dan Catlin and Ted Valenti worked with Professor Ernest Williams studying the behavior of male frosted elfin. The lupine only blooms for a few months in late spring/early summer.

The Rome Sand Plains also contribute to the upstate economy by attracting scientists, nature lovers and environmentalists. According to a DEC representative, the Rome Sand Plains is a unique place that should be preserved for years to come.

PHOTO BY SAM EVANS '01

Dan Catlin '01 and Biology Professor Ernest Williams walk across the beach-like ground at the Rome Sand Plains. Catlin studied the frosted elfin there this summer.

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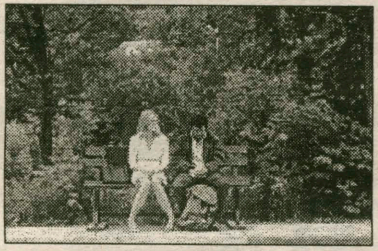
Arts & Entertainment

The Spectator's Top Ten Films of the Year

2. *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF YAHOO.COM

1. *Almost Famous*



3. *You Can Count On Me*

4. *Requiem For A Dream*

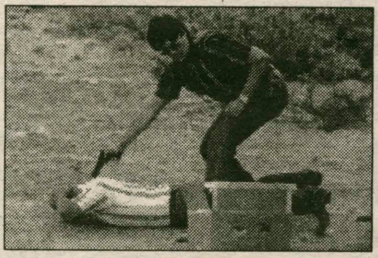
by Matthew Olney '01
A&E EDITOR

This year has been an exciting year for film, because going into the Golden Globe and Academy Award season, no film stands above the rest. There have been a number of excellent films this year, but for the first time in years, there is no front-runner. There are, however, a number of interesting possibilities that the film world has not seen in a while. Michael Douglas could be the first since Al Pacino in 1993 to be nominated for two Best Acting Academy Awards in the same year (for *Wonderboys* and *Traffic*), and Steven Soderbergh could be the first in decades to be nominated for two Best Director awards in the same year (for *Erin Brockovich* and *Traffic*). Whatever films the Academy decides to nominate and whoever wins these prestigious awards, I have compiled a list of my ten favorite films of the year.

Almost Famous is Cameron Crowe's (*Jerry MaGuire*) semi-autobiographical story of a fifteen year-old writer given a chance by *Rolling Stone* to follow and write a story on an up-and-coming band named *Stillwater*. Patrick Fugit is excellent as the high school writer, as is his over-protective mother played by Francis McDormand, but it is the the band leader Russell Hammond (Billy Crudup) and his rocky relationship with Band-Aid Penny Lane (Kate Hudson) that puts this film over the top. The script, cinematography, and acting are all top-notch in this fairly unknown but guaranteed Oscar contending film.

There was not much separating the rest of the films on my list. They were all excellent, but what stands out about *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* is that it is a fairy-tale that everyone can enjoy. Directed by Ang Lee (*The Ice Storm, Pride and Prejudice*), the story follows a Chinese warrior who seeks a magical sword called Green Destiny which was stolen by an enemy. What this film will most likely be remembered for is its incredible fighting sequences, and for good

See Top Ten Films page 11



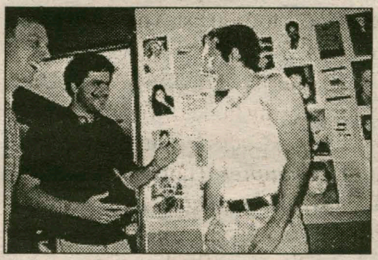
5. *Traffic*

7. *Dancer In The Dark*

9. *Jesus' Son*

6. *Wonderboys*

8. *High Fidelity*



10. *Chuck & Buck*

The Pat McGee Band

PRESS RELEASE

The Pat Mcgee Band continues touring in support of their debut album on Giant Records, titled *Shine*. With over 100,000 independently released albums sold and four years of non-stop touring (hitting 250-300 venues a year) the Pat McGee Band has built a grass roots following that keeps fans coming back for more and more. The Band's rich harmonies and energized acoustic rock have consistently sold out top venues such as Irving Plaza (New York City), Theater of Living Arts (Philadelphia) and two consecutive years of sold out concerts at Wolf's Trap Filene Center in Virginia for a record 7,000 seats.

The Pat McGee Band's new album is a 14-song collection of soulful melodies and sincere lyrics. *Shine* was produced by Jerry Harrison, whose credits include Live, Verve Pipe, Crash Test Dummies, Kenny Wayne Sheperd, amongst others. Pat McGee's Richmond-based band includes Pat McGee (lead vocals and guitars), Al Walsh (vocals and guitar), Jonathon Williams (vocals, piano, and keyboard), John Small (bass), Chardy McEwan (percussion) and Chris Williams (drums).

Recently, the Pat McGee Band performed for President and Mrs. Clinton at the "I Survived the Clinton White House" party in Washington D.C., to help the first couple bid farewell to the White House. The party, put together by White House Chief of Staff John Podesta, sponsered by the Democratic National Committee drew a crowd of 1500 guests who danced the night away. The band performed three-45 minute sets of songs, mostly from their most recent album, *Shine*. After the band's set President Clinton raved on the band's home video, "You know, people always ask me what I'm going to do when I leave office. The answer is, I'm flacking the new CD by the Pat McGee Band. I highly recommend it!"

The Pat McGee Band is scheduled to play at Hamilton College this semester.

Top Ten Films

Top Ten Films continued from page 10

reason. They are incredible and unlike any martial arts fighting I have ever seen, but what struck me the most about this film was its incredible cinematography and beautiful desert and forest landscapes, as well as the star-crossed love stories between Chow Yun-Fat and Michelle Yeoh and Zhang Ziyi and Chang Chen.

You Can Count on Me has captured much recognition this year, including the Sundance Best Picture award and a few Golden Globe nominations. This emotional film written and directed by Kenneth Lonergan follows Sammy (Laura Linney) and Terry (Mark Ruffalo), siblings who as children lost their parents to a car accident. Their emotional up-and-down relationship is accompanied by a number of side stories, including Sammy's relationship with her son (Rory Culkin), boyfriend, and boss (Matthew Broderick). Though life's circumstances may change, siblings never do.

Darren Aronofsky broke into the film world three years ago with his inventive black and white *Pi*. His sophomore effort, *Requiem for a Dream*, is equally inventive. Starring Ellen Burstyn, Jared Leto, Jennifer Connelly, and Marlon Wayans, *Requiem* is about the deterioration of the human soul through excessive drug abuse. The camera spins and twists to magnify and intensify the desparation and downward-spiral these characters have entered. Though overgraphic at times, *Requiem for a Dream* succeeds in showing the lives of drug-addicts.

Traffic is the first of two Michael Douglas films on my list. Directed by Steven Soderbergh (*Out of Sight*), *Traffic* stars Michael Douglas as the newly elected Drug-Czar forced to cope with his daughter's addiction to drugs, Catherine Zeta-Jones as the wife of a recently arrested drug lord who must continue the family business in order to protect her child, and Benicio Del Toro as a Mexican cop who comes to grips with the fact that the war on drugs is one that cannot be won. Soderbergh was creative in filming this picture by color-coding the different stories to display the moods of the characters. Good acting, direction, cinematography, and soundtrack highlight this film.

Wonderboys is the other Michael Douglas film on my list. Also starring Tobey Maguire, Frances McDormand, Robert Downy Jr., and Katie Holmes, *Wonderboys* is the story of a burnt out college professor who discovers one of his students has what it takes to get published. The film mixes drama and smart comedy, as well as a clever script and wonderful direction by Curtis Hanson (*LA Confidential*).

Other than a few music videos, Icelandic singer Bjork had never acted before she took the lead role in Lars Von Trier's (*Breaking The Waves*) *Dancer in the Dark*. Bjork plays a factory worker going blind from a hereditary condition. Her efforts to save her young son's eye sight are halted when she is accused of murder. For a first time actor, Bjork is amazing. Her emotional role is sure to win her an Oscar nomination. She also did the music for the film, which contains a number of musical interludes. What I liked about this film was not the script, which is corny in parts, but the acting, music, and the roaming camera, which has become a Lars Von Trier staple.

John Cusak has starred in a number of my favorite films, including *The Thin Red Line*, *The Grifters*, and *Bullets Over Broadway*. His latest film, *High Fidelity*, is a contemporary classic. He plays a record store owner who has a terrible history with relationships. The film flashes back to his prior relationships and focuses on his efforts to win back his greatest love, played by Iben Hjejle. Cusack's narrative dialogue is excellent, as is his sharp wit. The supporting cast is supurb, with Jack Black, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Lili Taylor, Lisa Bonet, and Cusack's sister Joan. Directed by Steven Frears (*The Grifters, Dangerous Liasons*) and based on the book by Nick Hornsby, *High Fidelity* is a must see.

Based on the short stories by Denis Johnson, *Jesus' Son* is the story of the transformation of a man's life from one of drugs to one redeemed by the discovery of love and compassion. Billy Crudup plays the lead role to perfection, and his supporting cast, which includes Jack Black, Samantha Morton, Holly Hunter, Dennis Leary, and Dennis Hopper, is equally impressive. The stories are poetic and brutal, but they all search deep into the human soul. They show the ups and downs of life, and the difficult task of overcoming seemingly invincible odds.

Finally, an independent film named *Chuck & Buck* rounds out my top ten list. Written by and starring Mike White, *Chuck & Buck* is the story of two childhood friends who part at age eleven. They meet several years later, only one hasn't grown up. Buck, the eleven year old boy in an adult's body, follows Chuck in hopes of regaining the close relationship they once had, but Chuck has moved on. *Chuck & Buck* is about more than just the relationship between the two main characters. It is about moving on in life, and is almost alegorical in that there is a little of both Chuck and Buck within us all.

There were a number of other films made this year that barely missed my top ten list. These movies include: *Best In Show* (Director, Christopher Guest), *Five Senses* (Director, Jeremy Podeswa), *The Original Kings of Comedy* (Director, Spike Lee), *Croupier* (Director, Mike Hodges), *Unbreakable* (Director, M. Night Shyamalan), *The Virgin Suicides* (Director, Sophia Coppola), *Butterfly Tongues* (Director, Jose Luis Cuerda), and *Gladiator* (Director, Ridley Scott).

Cast Away: all talk, no substance

by Sara Bencivenga '01
A&E WRITER

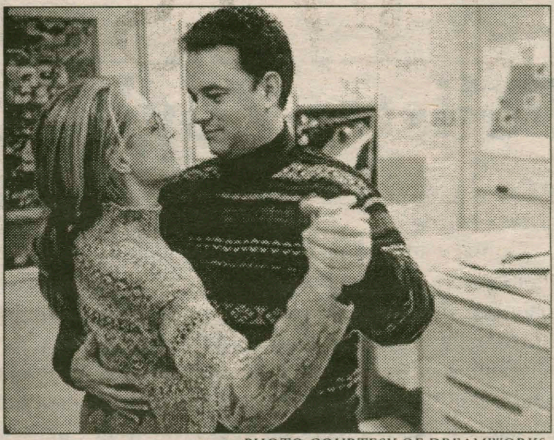


PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS

Helen Hunt, in an under written role, plays Hanks' girlfriend Kelly Frears.

Cast Away is the perfect example of how advertising can ruin a movie. It's virtually impossible in today's world to escape from the aggressive promotion of this film– the millions of previews, posters, trailers, and blood-stained volleyballs, which, I am told Wilson (the company) has started manufacturing– which serves to impede whatever surprise might have come from seeing the whole finished product. For most of us, the film will hold no surprises whatsoever; at least for me, there was nothing in the film that was unanticipated. I had already seen excerpts of practically every scene in some preview or another. This left me disappointed and frustrated. Perhaps the advertising is not as much to blame as is the film itself, which lacks artistic depth and relies on survival trivia (how will Tom Hanks make a fire or find water on a desert island?) to keep it interesting. And of course if you already know the answers, most of the movie will be a complete bore.

More reason for frustration in *Cast Away* is the squandered talent. Tom Hanks, who also co-produced and fought for making the film, plays Chuck Noland convincingly, and director Robert Zemeckis constructs some powerful scenes, but the film still falls short of its pretentions. And poor Helen Hunt (Chuck's girlfriend Kelly Frears), whose acting skills aren't exactly maximized. She appears in about 20 minutes of a two-and-a-half-hour movie. Screenwriter William Broyles obviously felt that it was necessary to show the story of Chuck's survival in the wilderness in great detail. *Cast Away's* pretentions, however, seem to be to show what stunning realizations and spiritual breakthroughs a man may achieve by continually cutting himself off from society for a long while. This, I guess, is what the 20 minutes after Chuck returns are meant to show us. He visits Kelly, looks in disbelief at Swiss army knives and lighters, gives his buddy an "inspiring" speech about his experiences, delivers a couple of platitudes ("I couldn't even kill myself the way I wanted to. I had control over NOTHING"), and that is that.

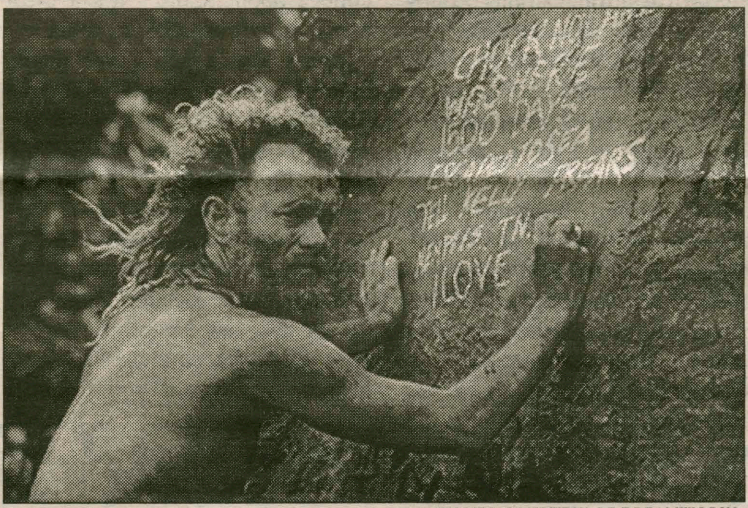


PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS

Multiple Oscar winner Tom Hanks shed nearly fifty pounds and sports a shaggy beard in his latest film *Castaway*, directed by Robert Zemeckis.

The point is, the film is drastically unbalanced. It has a long, long section devoted to Chuck's survival on the desert island, and then a short addendum about his return to civilization tacked on to give the whole thing some sort of spiritual meaning. And the film deprives us of what were potentially the most interesting elements of Chuck Noland's adventure: we are told of his suicide attempt at the end of the film, but we never actually see Tom Hanks desperate to get off the island... one way or another. And we see nothing of that first night that Chuck lands accidentally on the island; we are led to believe that he falls asleep (I find this hard to believe... wouldn't you check for help right away?). Nor do we see anything of his very first encounter, after four years on a desert island, with civilization; a ship goes by to rescue Chuck, and next thing you know, he is clean shaven on an airplane. The moment that he first talks to a person after four years of talking to a volleyball should be pivotal. Why wasn't it in the movie?

There was one redeeming feature in the film, however; it was without a doubt the scene in which Chuck's plane goes down. The fast-paced editing and flashes of black interspersed throughout heightened the drama and made the scene painfully realistic. As for the rest, don't be fooled. *Cast Away* is neither as good as critics make it out to be, nor as interesting as the previews make it seem.

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Features

Pollster Zogby brings accuracy, acclaim home to Utica

by Cristen Sargent '01
FEATURES EDITOR

On the wall of Alan Crockett's office hangs a sign that reads, "Politicians are from Venus. Voters are from Mars. We are here." Crockett is a vice president at Zogby International, a polling firm that telephones thousands of likely voters each week on their preferences on everything from Supreme Court decisions to alternative energy. Well-known among political pundits and the D.C. policy circuit for accurate, straight-shooting results, it's no wonder Zogby employees feel as if they span the light years between voters' desires and politicians' agendas.

This notability comes at a junction in our popular history when the recognition and credulity of polls continues to grow, yet "fuzzy math," misinterpretation, and even gross misinformation, best exemplified by the election night fiasco, increases. Zogby International appears to stay above this fray, according to Crockett, because of its emphasis on unbiased questions, representative sampling, independent (neither Republican or Democrat-swayed) polling, and ... pudding. "The unfortunate incidents of election night were the result of media – they were driven to be the first to say something," said Crockett. "Speed is not the preeminent factor in what Zogby does. Everyone has their own methodology, but the proof comes out in the pudding."

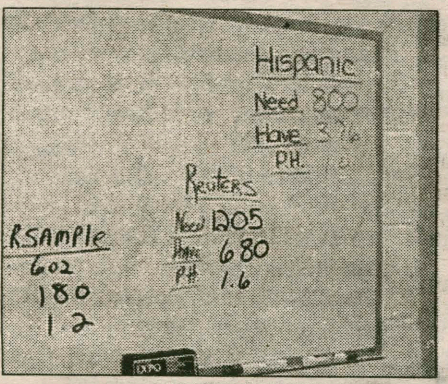


PHOTO BY CRISTEN SARGENT '01

The thousands of calls pollers make are kept track of on whiteboards across the office.

John Zogby, founder and CEO, has been at the helm of the firm that came the closest to the Clinton-Dole spread in 1996, was the sole predictor of Christine Whitman Todd's victory for New Jersey Governor in 1997, and had Al Gore by a slight popular majority. Part of Zogby's remarkable accuracy stems from the fact that they only question "likely voters;" those that the pollers determine will actually go out and vote on election day. You might be interested to know that John Zogby was a high school turned college teacher, and then ran for local office. But most amazing is the fact that the home of his leading poll firm is Utica, N.Y., just 15 minutes from campus. Zogby is a Utica native, and has chosen to set up shop in Utica, rather than the polling capital of the world, Washington, D.C.

In 1998 John Zogby told Eli Lehrer of *Insight on the News* that he keeps his operations in Utica because it gives him a completely different perspective than inside the Washington Beltway. "I find myself talking to more men who wear baseball caps and women who are rushing to the hairdresser," he told Lehrer. "In Utica, I get a lot of the real America."

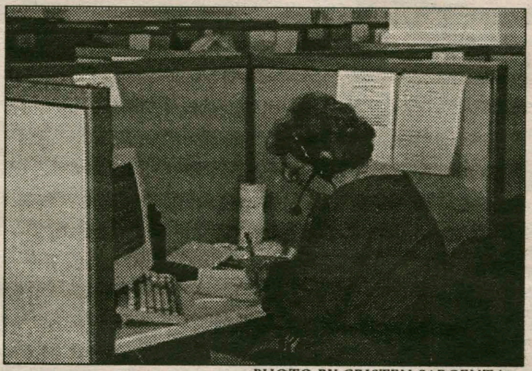


PHOTO BY CRISTEN SARGENT '01

A poller makes calls for the Zogby/Reuters poll, a daily tracking indicator.

Because of its close proximity and outstanding reputation, Hamilton has hired Zogby several times to conduct a poll in conjunction with a class. "It is an opportunity to combine marketing and pedagogy," said Professor of Sociology Dennis Gilbert, "Because we don't have Division I athletics, conducting a poll with the Zogby name on it is a way to get our name out there - and the administration is willing to spend money on it." A typical poll costs the college about $20K. It's a great experience for students, Gilbert says, learning the ins and outs of public opinion, writing poll questions, and actually gathering the data over the phone. Members of his class, Using Survey Research Methods, have the opportunity to do just that.

The rise of John Zogby is one of Gilbert's favorite stories to tell. After his years in education, Zogby ran for local office. He conducted his own polls, which told him he would lose. He lost the election, but a career in professional polling was born. "Zogby recently briefed the Republican caucus in the Senate," Gilbert told me. "He appears at press conferences himself. Whatever it is, whatever it takes, he'll poll it." Crockett added that Zogby's interpretation on the numbers, "are part of the success."

Gilbert's faith extends beyond Zogby to the science of polling itself. A one-time pollster for Representative Bernard Sanders (I-Vt.), Gilbert believes polls have the ability to generalize like no other social measurement technique, and that they have the "power of the aura of science around them." He cautions that these same advantages, though, are what make polls dangerous. "We can give them too much credibility, a misplaced faith." Pollsters are also guilty of asking narrow, superficial questions and they do not follow up with the people of whom they ask these questions. What's more, people will often feel compelled to answer questions on topics they have no business answering, such as foreign policy. hurting those involved. "None of this would be so bad if polls weren't so powerful," Gilbert added. "But they're a great teaching tools. And for Hamilton, it's all about DI athletics."

Gilbert isn't the only Hamilton person to have put his or her chips on polling. Donielle Bradley '88, a Hamilton graduate, is director of national marketing at Zogby. An English major and economics minor here, Bradley worked in accounting, marketing, plus a 5-year stint as Hamilton's corporate and foundation relations director before settling in at Zogby last year. Her days as an undergraduate taught her to blend communications with financial skills, and to approach tasks with an open mind. Clients approach her, or Bradley's team actively seeks out new clients, and she tries to learn as much as she can about prospective clients in order to propose a plan that best fits the information the client wants. If her plan is approved, it moves on to the editorial staff, who writes the questions, then to the pollers, and finally to the systems staff, who print out the final report.

A trip through the offce, and meeting with staff members, has convinced this writer that a "poll on polling" would confirm that Zogby International is setting the precedent in public opinion research.

PHOTO BY CRISTEN SARGENT '01

Donielle Bradley '88 is marketing director for Zogby International.

New January service week in Utica meets with success

by Jessica Atcheson '03
FEATURES WRTIER

While most of us were busy (or not so busy) at home wrapping up our last few days of Winter Break, a group of excited students and faculty gathered in nearby Utica to participate in the first ever Urban Service Experience (USE) program, geared towards educating participants about the area surrounding Hamilton, involving them in various local volunteer service organizations, and breaking down the walls between faculty and students.

PHOTO BY MARTINE GUYOT-BENDER

This group of Hamilton faculty and students set precendent last week when they engaged in the Urban Service Experience, a week-long service project in Utica.

The USE program originally began as a pre-orientation concept of the Kirkland Project and was developed by College Chaplain Jeffrey McArn, Professor of Comparative Literature Nancy Rabinowitz, and Assistant Professor of Women's Studies Vivyan Adair. Envisioned as a sister program to Adirondack Adventure, USE was originally intended to "give students a larger sense of community" and give something to the neighborhood through volunteering before focusing on Hamilton itself.

First responses to a mailing to accepted students this past year, however, was a bit discouraging. Due to the timing, there was very little response. The coordinators decided to take a different approach and offer the program to current Hamilton students and faculty as a sort of "mini Alternative Spring Break experience," as McArn puts it. It would give participants the opportunity to spend extended time in Utica, which as student participant Jessica Haab says, "is right around the corner." Response this time around was well received.

The group, consisting of ten professors and administrators and 11 students, met Wednesday, Jan. 10 to begin an intensive three-day program of community service, ranging from cooking meals at the Hope House to bowling with kids from the House of Good Shepherd, a house for girls who are homeless or from broken homes. The group stayed together in the West Presbyterian Church. This experience brought them closer together. "Sleeping in the same room with someone breaks down barriers," McArn affirms. The group also volunteered at the Loretto Center, a home for senior citizens, and learned about other service organizations such as the Peacemakers Program, which helps determine recommendations in local custody cases. They also learned about the history of Utica itself, through visits to local restaurants and coffeehouses as well as the Munson Williams Proctor Art Museum.

Haab describes the experience eagerly and animatedly as "awesome, draining," and ultimately "very valuable." She also notes that it was good to work with professors and faculty in a different environment that fostered interaction "on a more personal level." She stresses the important point that many people on this campus do not know what it is like to live in poverty, or what Utica is like at all.

McArn, who says that there is a commitment to continuing the USE program, is hopeful that the success of this first trip will prompt student leadership and energize faculty to get involved in making the USE program a companion to Adirondack Adventure. McArn also sees this program as an "open door" to step into further service in the community, whether it be through Hamilton-run organizations, such as Hamilton Action Volunteer Outreach Coalition (HAVOC) or through dealing directly with service organizations in Utica themselves. He reminds us that being familiar with something can make it less threatening to take that first step which could make a world of difference in someone's life. For further information on the USE program, contact McArn, Rabinowitz, Adair, or Professor Cheryl Morgan. For anyone interested in volunteer service opportunities through Hamilton College, HAVOC is a valuable resource and important campus organization.

Trying to look beyond the bad in sports today and learning to see the good beneath

Brett Zalaski '03

The Point After

The black cloud that surrounds sports grows larger by the day. ESPN, a sports highlight show, has now become half highlights, and half police reports.

I fear for my future son or daughter, and what professional sports will be like when he or she grows up. I hope I can point out to him or her the infinite beauty involved in sports.

I hope that I can assure he or she that sports is not the garbage you see on TV, the playing out of the daily soap opera that is the NBA, the NFL, the MLB, the CBA, and the NHL.

Sports is not Allen Iverson rapping, it is Allen Iverson crossing over his opponent and pulling up for the silky smooth jump shot.

Sports is not debating whether or not George Steinbrenner bought a World Series, it is the Yankees as a team believing that a struggling David Cone will get the ever-dangerous Mike Piazza out in the biggest at-bat of the World Series.

Sports is not wondering if Ray Lewis was involved in a murder, it is watching him read the screen and dropping the tailback for a loss of three.

Sports is not Kobe and Shaq arguing about who should take more shots, it is about Kobe beating his man off the dribble and throwing the precision alley-oop to the granite block that is Shaq.

Sports is not Lawrence Phillips, Mark Chmura, and Kevin Stevens, but it is Andres Galarragga, Dan Reeves, and Sean Elliot.

Sports is not turning on the TV and watching the Rae Carruth trial, it is turning on the TV and seeing Casey Jacobsen and Kirk Haston bury near impossible game winning shots against the top-ranked collegiate teams in the country.

Furthermore, actively participating in sports is a remedy to which doctors ought to look more often.

I would like to reinforce the idea that sports is not only what we see on television.

It is stepping on the court and draining the first three that you take.

It is staring down the pitcher, ahead in the count 3 balls to 1 strike, and knowing that the fastball is on its way.

It is taking the feed from the shortstop and turning the double play with a jump over the diving opponent to end the inning.

It is pulling down the ball on third and long and darting past the outstretched hands of the competition to get the first down.

It is nervously adding the extra weight to the bench press, and pushing it up with your last ounce of strength.

It is pulling on the thick, protective hockey gloves, donning the helmet, and picking up a hockey stick, and then flying down the ice in the pursuit of the diminutive puck.

It is grabbing a pair of running sneakers and some shorts and taking a jog down to route 233 and back.

It is even putting on your swim trunks and swimming a few laps in the nice warm water of an Olympic sized pool.

It is borrowing a lacrosse stick after dark and going down to the newly lit TDX field for a catch.

Each of the above has an incredible calming affect on me, and each helps to put my problems into their proper perspective. For me, sports have become the stop sign in the information superhighway of life.

No offense to any of my teachers, but driving an 0-2 outside fastball the opposite way is just as satisfying as a good grade on a paper or test.

I understand that all of the above is difficult for some people to understand. But that's just the thing. Everyone has their own separate ideas of what is beautiful, of what is satisfying, and of what is calming or healing.

Along with many other people, I have found my answer in sports. I have found it in a 400-yard Tiger Woods drive, a Lemieux-to-Jagr highlight reel goal, and 56-yard Montana to Rice touchdown.

This article was more of a themed rant then anything else. But if I could make just one point it would be for everyone who has become disenchanted with sports to give them another chance.

Drop by the gym and watch your peers play.

Lace up the old hightops and try your luck from behind the arc.

Break out the old mitt and have a game of catch.

Don't turn past the college basketball game on ESPN, or the pro game on MSG. Sit down, watch intently, and try to find the real beauty of sport. If you look hard enough, it will not be difficult to find.

Scoreboard

Men's Hoops
7-2

Women's Hoops
6-3

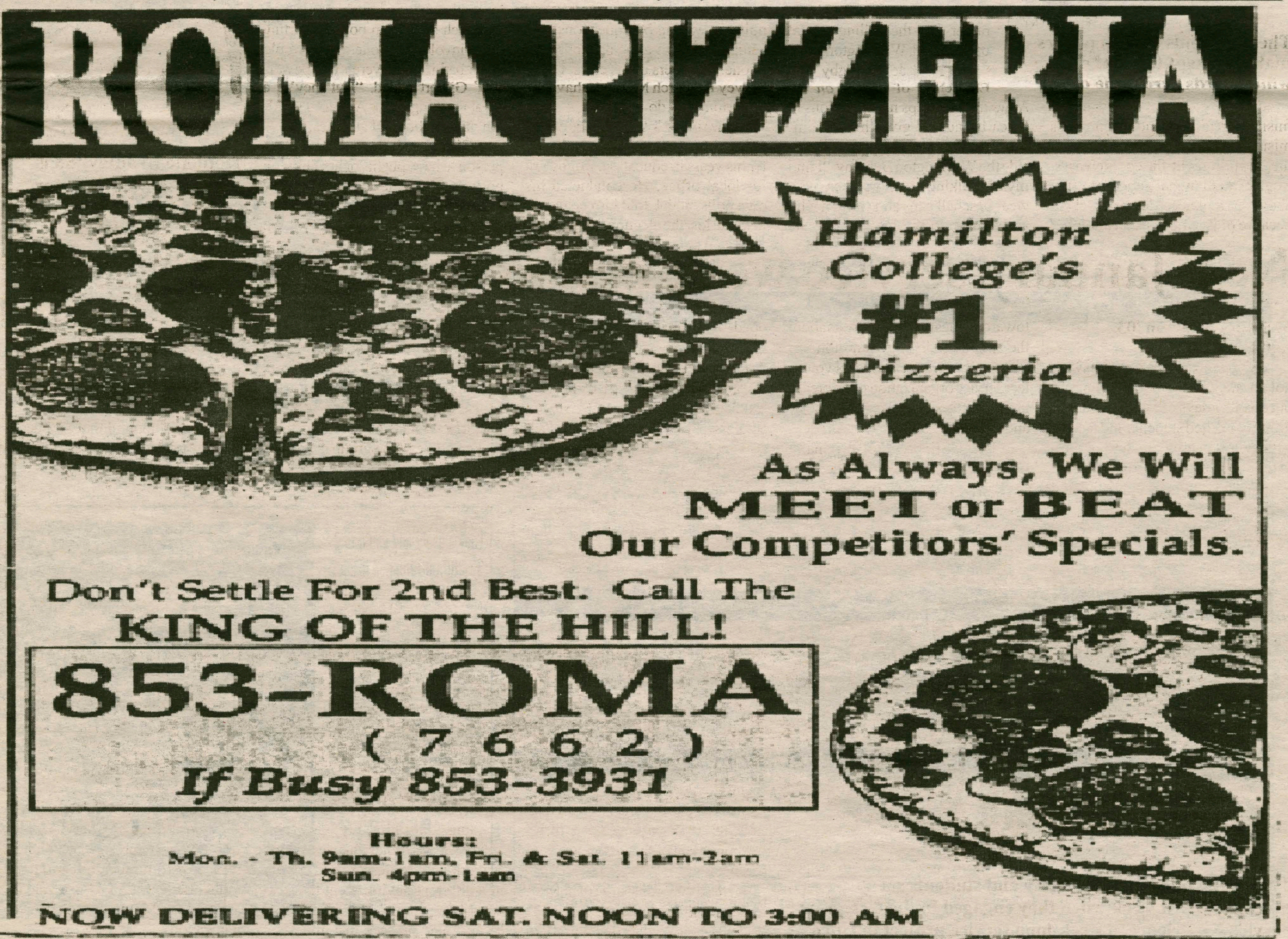
Men's Swimming
4-0

Women's Swimming
2-2

Squash
2-1

Men's Hockey
5-6-1

Women's Hockey
8-4



Women's Hockey makes good on New Year's Resolutions, defeats Wesleyan, Connecticut College, and Rensselear

by Lauren Reynolds '02
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

The women's hockey team came back from vacation on New Year's Day with a few resolutions. Under the leadership of captain Kathleen Lubin '01 and coach Shannon Bryant, the team resolved to end Middlebury's five year winning streak and to focus on their defense.

Before the break, the Continentals lost their last three games to formidable opponents such as Colgate, who will be playing at the Division I level next season, and hockey powerhouses Colby and Bowdoin. Though they had started off the season strong, the losses left a sour taste in the team's mouth, and they left for break intent on regaining the momentum they had lost. During the break, the team focused on creating new power plays and on neutral zone coverage.

Lubin commented, "We lost a large presence on defense to graduation, so we spent a lot of time over the break working on replacing that loss."

The team's hard work paid off in their first game against Wesleyan, whom they defeated 3-1. Then they defeated NESCAC rivals Connecticut College and RPI. In the their first three games, they

COURTESY OF HAMILTON WEB SITE

Forward Paula Dady '03 earned ECAC Player of the Week honors.

outscored their opponents 9-3, a welcome change from the previous three games. Paula Dady '03 and Eden Self '04 led the team in scoring.

The team's greatest test came against eigth ranked Williams, who entered Sage Rink on an eight game winning streak. The Continentals held the game close in the first period, but Williams was able to score three unanswered goals in the second period to give them the lead they would need to win. Hamilton goalie Jen Kroleski '03 finished with an outstanding 44 saves for the game.

"What killed us in the Williams game was penalties," commented Lubin. Lubin also praised Kroleski's playing, attributing many of the team's wins to her performance between the pipes.

After the loss to Williams, the Continentals were hungry for a win. They took their aggression out on Holy Cross, annihilating them 9-0.

Dady, who set last year's record for most goals in a season (28) scored three goals and had three assists. Dady was named the ECAC Division III Player of the Week for her efforts. Lubin also attributed Maggie Sayer's '02 play on defense and Self's work on offense with the win.

The next four games are extremely important for the Lady Continentals as they look for a playoff spot. They are away against Middlebury and RIT and have their semester home opener on January 27th against UVM.

Men's Swimming wins, Women's Swimming loses

by Jared Frank '01
SPORTS WRITER

Anthony Loeffler '01 and Jen Kunz '01 were named UCAA Men's and Women's Swimmers of the Week for their performances during the Middlebury swim meet on the 13th of January in the Bristol Pool.

Loeffler led the men's team to a 140-88 victory by placing first in the 50 free and the 100 free races. David Cecere '02 also had a standout performance with two first-place finishes, in the 200 individual medley and in the 200 breaststroke.

For the women, Kunz had first place finishes in the 50 free and the 100 free, and she was also a member of the first place 400 medley relay team consisting of Maria Choi '03, Julia Sullivan '03, and Brooke Hegarty '02.

Unfortunately the women were defeated by a score of 135-108. The men's team improves to 4-0 while the women drop to 2-2.

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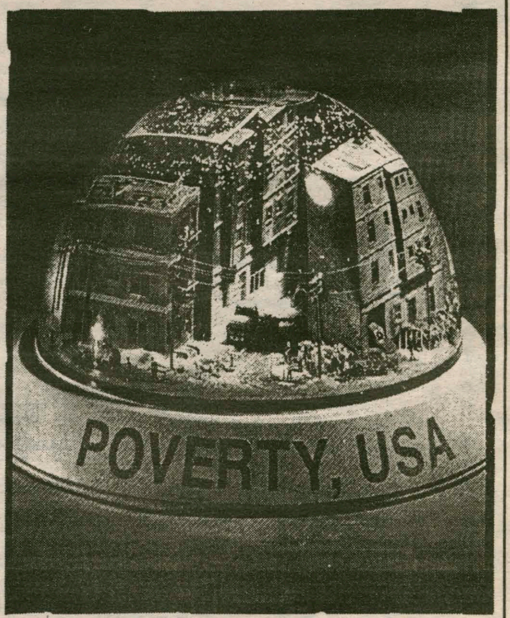
Each pick has been selected to win contest outright. *If any given game ends in a tie, that game is thrown out of the lineup. Beat the "Experts"* is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college sports. Whichever Guest Handicapper posts the best winning percentage during their week will be selected as *Hamilton's Athlete of the Week* (honorary) in the final issue of this semester and will be entitled to all the perks therein, namely an all-expense paid dinner with our devilishly handsome and stunningly beautiful sports editors, Andy and Lauren, as well as his or her picture in *The Spectator.*

Specially Selected Sporting Events	**Chris Preston** *Spectator Managing Editor* Last Week: - To date: 0-0	**Lauren Reynolds** *Spectator Sr. Sports Editor* Last Week: - To date: 0-0	**Andy Horner** *Spectator Sports Editor* Last Week: - To date: 0-0	**J.P. LeBlanc** *Spectator I&I Editor* Last Week: - To date: 0-0	**Matt Olney** *Spectator A&E Editor* Last Week: - To date: 0-0
NBA					
Minnesota at Seattle 1/19	Sonics	Wolves	Wolves	Wolves	Wolves
Sacramento at Portland 1/20	Kings	Blazers	Blazers	Blazers	Blazers
Phoenix at Utah 1/21	Jazz	Suns	Jazz	Suns	Jazz
Indiana at New York 1/21	Knicks	Knicks	Knicks	Knicks	Knicks
Toronto at Philadelphia 1/21	76ers	76ers	76ers	76ers	76ers
Miami at Los Angeles 1/21	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers
Boston at Golden State 1/21	Celtics	Warriors	Celtics	Warriors	Celtics
NCAA Basketball					
#2 Duke at Georgia Tech 1/20	Blue Devils	Yellow Jackets	Blue Devils	Blue Devils	Blue Devils
Rutgers at #24 Boston Col. 1/20	Eagles	Scarlet Knights	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles
#8 Syracuse at #18 Seton Hall 1/20	Pirates	Pirates	Pirates	Orangemen	Orangmen
NHL					
Pittsburgh at Dallas 1/19	Penguins	Stars	Penguins	Stars	Stars
Buffalo at Toronto 1/20	Sabres	Maple Leafs	Sabres	Maple Leafs	Maple Leafs

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you in. Write "I can beat the experts" on a piece of paper and add your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editor at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're randomly selected, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

Look closely and you'll find 32,000,000 trapped inside.

Here's a souvenir from a place the good times left behind. Where one out of every six children — and one out of every eleven families — still struggles to survive. It's the state of poverty in America. And for more than 32 million people, it's a cold, hard place to live.



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Williams uses press to unravel women's hoops team

Hamilton suffers through scoring drought during second half

by Andy Horner '03
SPORTS EDITOR

It is not unusual in collegiate sports for even the most competitive and devoted teams to have an occasional lapse of intensity and determination. If a team is lucky, a lapse of this sort will occur when the opposition is inferior, and thus the team will still have a shot at winning the game. Unfortunately for the Hamilton women's basketball team, such luck was not on their side during their game against an aggressive and highly skilled Williams squad. Suffering through one of their poorer performances of the season, the Continentals experienced a 79-40 setback to Williams.

The game started out in promising fashion, with the Hamilton women playing evenly with Williams. The beginning of the first half was marked by solid defense and rebounding by the Continentals, and their offense was fueled early on by consistent mid range and interior shooting.

However, as the half continued, the Continentals struggled to find an offensive rhythm, and no one on the team was able to successfully find their range from the floor. As Hamilton's offense struggled, Williams was able to turn their defensive intensity up a notch, and began to exasperate the Continentals by means of an aggressive full court press. The half ended with Hamilton behind, and still without any sign of offensive fluidity.

The second half of the game proved to be disastrous for the Continentals, as the press of Williams continued to give the Hamilton women problems. Often unable to find an open teammate to inbound to, the Continentals committed numerous turnovers directly in front of their own basket. These turnovers led to easy opportunities for Williams, and they were able to convert with frequency.

"I think intensity wise we have to step back and work on it," commented Hamilton coach Julie Diehl. "We knew that they would press, but we were unable to get through it successfully."

During the course of the second half, even when the Continentals were able to break through the Williams defense, points were not forthcoming.

The team shot only 17 percent from the field in the second half, and only got to the foul line nine times during the entire game. The lone bright spot for the Continentals was the play of power forward Jen Muñoz '04, who led the team with sevenpoints, and also pulled down a game-high tenrebounds.

"We shot 20 percent from the field for the game," said Diehl, "and that just isn't going to win you very many games."

Point guard Liz Casey '03 explained Hamilton's offensive woes, "We didn't move, and we didn't play together offensively, and we weren't able to get our usual fast break points."

Stephanie Dunn '03 singled out Williams' defensive intensity for the cause of Hamilton's struggles, and commented, "For us to improve on that, we need to prepare ourselves mentally for teams that are going to play intensely and aggressively against us."

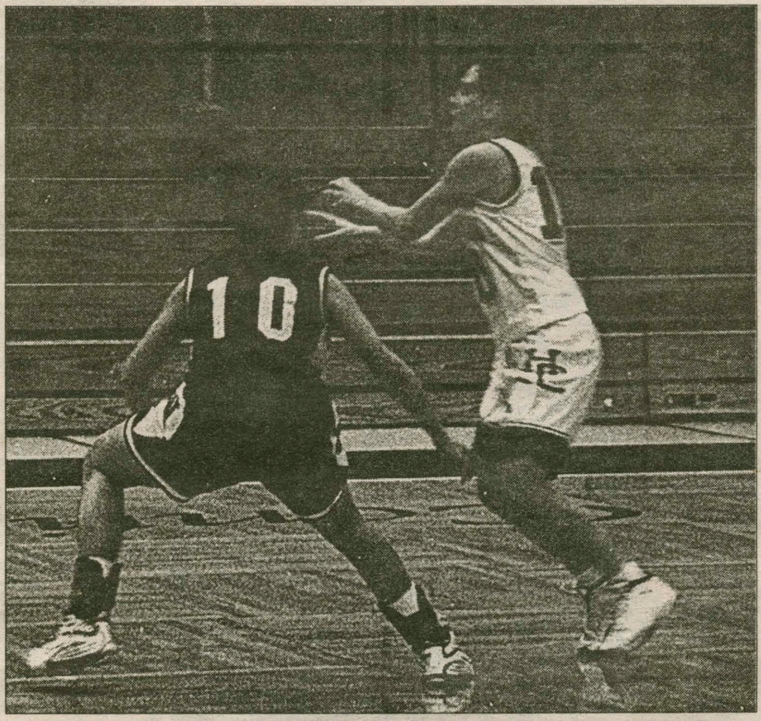

PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02

Continental point gaurd Jenny Russell '02 passes around a Williams defender during Hamilton's 79-40 loss. Russell has led the team offensively this season.

However, the Continentals have certainly demonstrated their ability to do this over the course of the season thus far. During the mid-semester recess, the Continentals notched two impressive victories in which their offense showed exceptional fluidity and precision execution.

In the contest against Medaille, a game that Hamilton won by a score of 93-59, offensive and defensive intensity combined led .to a terrific all-around victory for the Hamilton women.

"We got a lot of fast break points," said Casey, "and we moved and passed the ball very well."

Led by the 14 points of point guard Jenny Russell '02, the Hamilton offense hummed along, dissecting any attempt to contain them by the overmatched Medaille defense.

The rebounding, as usual, was strong, as forwards Muñoz and Dunn were able to dominate the defensive boards.

"We really looked great in the Medaille game," commented Diehl, "we were able to do everything that we wanted offensively and defensively."

In their next game, against Vassar, Hamilton continued their dominant play. In notching a fifty-point victory, 90-40, Hamilton showed its ability to dominate inferior competition.

The offense was led once again by Russell, who scored a season-high 21 points. The board work was done by center Holly Erick '04, who pulled down six rebounds and contributed six points.

"Vassar was undefeated before that game," explained Diehl, "and we outran and out rebounded them, and we shot a very good percentage from the field."

"The main reason we were able to pull away in the second half against Vassar was our ability to adjust to and break down their half-court trap," commented Casey.

Indeed, in their demolition of Vassar Hamilton overcame an aggressive and hardworking team.

Defensively, Hamilton prevented the low post scorers of Vassar from hurting them on the offensive end.

Thus after an up-and-down two weeks, Hamilton will seek to get back on the winning track Friday night at home against conference rival Union.

"We have the talent and potential to do very well," summed up Casey, "but our intensity and composure on the court has to improve."

With the aid of a supportive crowd and a determined and intense approach to the game, the Hamilton women should be able to do just that, so come out and show your support for the ladies of the White and Blue.

Indoor Men's and Women's Track and Field begin season by running past Union to capture first place

by Michael Everhart '02
SPORTS WRITER

The women's indoor track and field team narrowly defeated rival Union College 69-66 last weekend at Union.

As Maggie Hanson '02 put it, "We didn't expect the meet versus Union to be so close, but due to many injuries and some people who were unable to come back early from break, the meet was more competitive than we anticipated."

Hanson, Christina Freyre '02, and Barb Dalgish '03 led the team with at least two victories each.

Dalgish, in her first season in either event, finished first in the pole vault and high jump with heights of 2.28 meters and 1.34 meters, respectively.

Hanson started off the season very well after spending the fall semester in France by finishing first in the 1,500-meter run and the 4x400m relay. Her time of 4:39 in the 1,500 automatically qualified her for the NCAA Championships in March.

She was also part of the winning 4x400-meter team that finished first with a time of 4:29.7 seconds.

She continued training this past fall with a running club in Paris while her teammates overcame several injuries to finish 15th in the NCAA Championships.

Also part of the winning 4x400 was Freyre, who finished first in the 45-meter and 200-meter dashes. In the 45 she won with a time of 6.8 seconds and in the 200 she won with a time of 28.82 seconds.

Anna Arnold '04 and Lizzy Fazio '04 finished third and fourth in the 45 behind Freyre with times of 6.89 and 7.10 seconds, respectively.

Fazio, Hanson, and Janet Davis '01 finished third, fourth, and fifth in the 200 with times of 29.97, 31.07, and 32.56 seconds, respectively.

In the other sprint events Andrea Stroud '03 finished second in the 400-meter dash with a time of 69.53 seconds while Tricia Kowalski '03 and Gill Chapman '04 finished first and second in the 500-meter run with times of 1:28.82 and 1:33.13.

In the other distance events Jen Cammarano '03 and Alyson Grant '04 and Lauren Perkins '04 finished first, second, and third in the 1,000-meter run with times of 3:08.79, 3:12.22, and 3:25.07.

Cammarano and Grant's times qualified them for ECAC's. In the 800-meter run Amanda Chase '03, Kate Nelson '01, and Kristen Daly '01 finished second, third, and fourth with times of 2:32.46, 2:34.19, and 2:49.91, respectively.

Nelson also finished second in the 1500 behind Hanson with a time of 5:02.01.

In the other field events Courtney Robbins '03 finished third in the weight throw and the shot put with distances of 6.81 meters and 9.14 meters.

Chapman and Melissa Carlinhos '04 finished fourth and sixth behind Robbins in the shot put.

In the triple jump Arnold finished first with a distance of 9.95 meters.

Coach Ellen Hull said about the meet, "It was a good starting point. We're very sore and tired after a week of practice. Hopefully we'll be recovered and ready to Thursday against Oswego and New Paltz."

The men's indoor track and field team also excelled against Union College. Led by Scott Taylor '01, who placed first in the 1500m run and the200m run, thetrack team defeated Union 81-70.

Other track stars included Ryan Murelli '02, who placed first in the 400m run and second in the 1000m run. Sky Gellatly '03 jumped his way to victory, skying to first place in the long jump and second place in the tripple jump.

Also earning first place was Doug Zeyak '02 in the 500m, and the 1600mrelay team.

Freyre attributes the win to the hard work and unity of the team.

"Our freshman sprinters have a terrific work ethic and a lot of potential," praised Freyre.

Elijah Huling '04 claimed first place in two sprints; the 45m and the 200m, proving that experience is not necessarily the most important component to a race.

"This is a very young team," commented Freyre, "but it is a different team than we have seen in the past years. Our returning runners provide the leadership the team needs to succeed, and the younger runners bring new talent and enthusiasm. They all work very well together, especially for a track team."

Sports

Late Flurry Propels Williams Over Hamilton, 65-64

by Chris Preston '03
MANAGING EDITOR

For over 30 minutes Tuesday night the men's basketball team played almost perfect basketball against NESCAC powerhouse Williams College.

Playing in a hostile environment, the Continentals immediately silenced the crowd on senior Kris Fudge's opening dunk, grabbing early momentum and a lead they would not relinquish until 3.5 seconds remained.

It was then that Williams center Manny Benjamin hit a heart-breaking, game-winning shot, sending Hamilton to a heartbreaking defeat and a 7-2 overall record.

The loss was especially tough to swallow considering how well the Continentals had played throughout most of the game, extending their lead to as much as 14 points in the second half.

Hamilton received significant contributions from several players, led by Fudge's 19 points and point guard Jimmy Driggs's ('01) 10 points and seven assists.

Jim McCarthy '01 and Joe Finley '03 also scored in double figures with 13 and 14 points, respectively.

However, it was the Continentals' inability to grab a rebound and their inaccuracy from the free throw line down the stretch that allowed Williams to get back into the game.

The Ephs finished the game on a 22-7 run, with Benjamin's 15-footer as time ran down capping the dramatic comeback and leaving the Continentals wondering about what could have been.

"They just killed us on the backboards the last six minutes," said Coach Tom Murphy. "We were ahead the entire game, but we missed ten free throws and allowed them to get too many offensive rebounds at the end. Hopefully we learned something from it."

Co-captain Driggs added, "We played well for 30 minutes, but good teams have to play well for 40. They basically dominated the last ten minutes and just pushed us around."

All told, Williams got 17 points off offensive rebounds, outrebounding Hamilton 35-27.

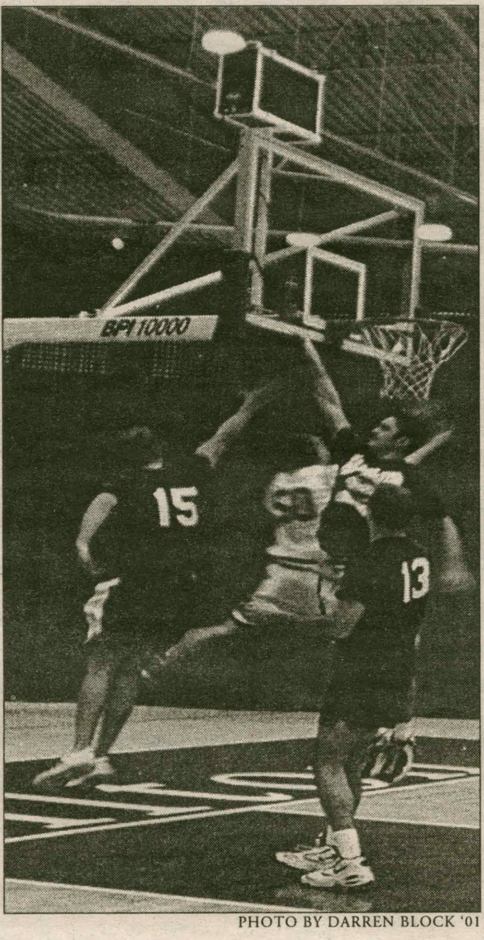

PHOTO BY DARREN BLOCK '01

Toby Bjorkman '02 skies towards the hoop during a recent practice.

This was enough to overcome Hamilton's seven of 14 three point shooting and fierce defensive intensity throughout most of the game.

The narrow loss closely resembled Hamilton's only other loss, which was a 75-69 overtime defeat at Colby College.

In that game, the Continentals similarly built a commanding second half lead only to see it disappear in the final minutes.

The team responded to that loss by winning three straight games, two of which were blowout victories at Vassar and Rensselaer last weekend.

After three consecutive road games in a span of five days the Continentals finally return home this weekend, as they take on Union (tonight) and Skidmore (Saturday).

It will be interesting to see whether the team responds to the Williams loss as well as they responded to the Colby defeat.

Coach Murphy expects them to do just that.

"They're good kids," said Murphy. "They work hard, they play hard. We've won a couple close ones and we've lost a couple close ones. Obviously we would like to be 9-0 as opposed to 7-2, but overall we have played pretty well."

A big part of the team's success has been senior co-captain Brendan Ferretti, who was not at 100 percent Tuesday night due to an injured foot.

This diminished his playing time and prevented him from playing with his usual high level of intensity.

He hopes to be closer to full strength this weekend.

Look for the Continentals to bounce back from the Williams loss, playing on their home floor for the first time in more than a month.

Also, expect them to play intense, fast-paced basketball for a full 40 minutes this time as opposed 30 plus.

If so, Union and Skidmore will experience Division 3's version of "40 Minutes of Hell."

Men's Hockey notches road wins, drops one at home

by Charles Spiliotis '03
SPORTS WRITER

The men's hockey team continued what has been an up-and-down year thus far by picking up two big road wins over the week-end and then suffering through their worst performance of the year on Tuesday. SUNY Oswego blew out the Conts, 8-3, to bring their record to 6-6-1. Despite the loss the Continentals maintained a very solid 6-2 league mark.

"The biggest thing we have to do is to be consistent. We've been playing well early and falling apart, and we just can't afford to do that," said Coach Grady.

Hamilton's game at Oswego saw the Conts fall down 5-0 before the halfway mark of the second period, and Oswego could not look back. Goaltender David Scamurra '03 looked shaky in his first start of the season, allowing five goals on twenty Oswego shots before being pulled in the second period. Matt Jones '04 came in and stopped the bleeding, but the damage had been done.

Two goals from Jeff Corey '04 (J.P. Acosta '02, unassisted) and another from Vic Cizmarik '01 (Scott Gordon '04, Nicolas Potvin '02) were not enough, as Oswego earned its 11th win on the season without much of a fight.

"Our goaltending has come around, but we still need to find that consistency in net that hasn't been there for us. Jones, Scamurra, and [Michael] Kaufman ['01] all have seen and will continue to see more time for the rest of the year," said Grady.

The weekend's contests at St. Anselm's and at New England College were both big wins for the Continentals. Saturday's matchup at St. Anselm's saw Kaufman earn the start in net and come through with a big performance. Corey would get the scoring started, netting a shorthanded goal from Cizmarik at the 5:38 mark. The Hawks would knot it at one, however, less than a minute into the second with a Ryan Solis goal. Eight minutes later, forward Kevin Audit '03 would break the tie, netting his fifth of the year on an assist from Steven Leger '02. After a St. Anselm's score tied it up midway through the third, Captain Cory Dorzek '01 finished what would be the game-winner, another shorthanded goal, at the 13:26 mark. Cizmarik added an insurance marker from Acosta late in the third, as Hamilton, behind 29 saves by Kaufman, took home the victory.

PHOTO BY LINDSAY GRIFFITHS '02

Hamilton forward Jeff Corey '04 controls the puck while being pursued by two defenders during a recent game.

"We played very well over the weekend, and I think it gave us a jump start that we needed. The Oswego game didn't help, but we have to focus on the four tough games we have ahead of us. We have a tendency to play to a team's level, and I think these games will come down to whoever can play better within their system on that day," Audit commented.

In traveling to New England College, Hamilton was seeking to avenge its early-season home loss at the hands of the Pilgrims. They came out very aggressively, trying to put it away early. They put four big goals up (Tom Ditzer '04, Rob Gordon '03, Leger, Audit) and before New England knew what hit them, they went into the final period down 4-1. 25 seconds into the third, Cizmarik netted what would appear to be icing on the cake, from Gordon and Potvin. But the Pilgrims would not go away just yet. They netted two goals within the first seven minutes to cut the lead in half, and then a third with a little less than a minute left to make it 5-4. Kaufman and the Conts would not allow the Pilgrims to complete their comeback, however, running out the clock and capping a winning weekend.

Defenseman Steve Aubuchon '03 said, "We've had some tough losses, but we're finally starting to come together as a team, and when we start to play as one, we can beat anybody. This next weekend will be a big test for us as a team, but we're confident that if we all are on the same page, we'll be victorious."

Hamilton comes home for two of its toughest tests of the season this weekend. On Friday it squares off against #2 ranked Middlebury College, who sports a 9-2-1 record thus far, and Saturday the team will take on defending national champion Norwich.

Grady said, "We play two tremendous teams this weekend, and we need to not let them play their games. The students are back, and in Sage that can be like a one goal advantage. We need to play disciplined and smart, and I think we'll be fine."